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# THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

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## HORTICULTURE IN MARYLAND.

It must be a great satisfaction to all who have labored so early and so well to establish a Horticultural Society in Maryland, to note now its final establishment, and prospects of a career equal in usefulness to that of her sister societies of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. This is the more gratifying in the face of the failure of former attempts, and the doubts that were entertained in some quarters as to the chance of success in this. Maryland ought to become the great head centre of horticulture. In what may be termed the plainer features of horticulture she is a rough diamond. No other State has better natural facilities for fruit culture and market gardening generally, and in the higher branches, where flower culture and garden art comes in, there is as much taste among the sons and daughters of our State as any one can boast of.

All this it is the mission of this society to develop. The proprietor and editors of this magazine take some pride in their work, as individuals, in aiding in its establishment,—and the influence of the magazine itself has been given to the cause in all heartiness. In the future of its glory, as in the uncertainty of the past, we hope to give it our earnest support, and in this trust to have the encouragement of every friend of horticulture.

## PLANTING FRUIT TREES.

November is the great planting month in the Southern States, and a few hints as to the best way to insure success will be seasonable, and we trust profitable. As a general rule the best success will follow when the trees are obtained from the nearest respectable nursery, where tree culture is understood. One can go there with their own vehicles, have them freshly dug, pack straw or other damp material in about the roots, and get them again in the ground without any drying of the roots or delays that are almost inseparable from a long distance away. Even where it is not desirable to take

away one's own trees, and the nurseryman has to deliver, it will pay to go and select ones own trees, and the nurseryman will deliver within a reasonable distance in fresh and good condition. Keeping the roots from drying up, between the time of digging and planting, is half the battle. If we had a choice between a badly dug tree, and one whose roots had been permitted to get dry, we should take the former, though both are well worth looking after. If trees are packed as soon as they are dug, and packed as good nurserymen know how to pack, there is indeed no reason why trees should not go a thousand miles, as they often are sent these distances. It is when dealings are had with irresponsible men, rather than the distance, which makes so many trees failures. Men who profess to be agents of respectable firms, are simply often but peddlars, who buy the cheapest kind of trees, pack them themselves, and often let them get half dry before they get into the cases. These men have not much conscience in either quality, condition or price. We know of a case this fall where some hedge plants were sold to an estimable citizen of Baltimore, who knows all about ordinary merchandise, but nothing of plants, for sixty dollars a thousand, by one of these travelling gentry, when he could have bought them of any first-class nurseryman about our city, (and we have a good number of these), for the tenth part of this.

In this selection of trees it is of good service to get trees that have not been starved in the nurseries. It is bad policy to have trees that come from patches grown over with grass, or have in any other ways been neglected. A half starved tree is much more likely to die in transplanting, than one which has been neglected.

However, the chief part of success is, as we have said, in keeping the roots from drying. It is not too much to say that nine-tenths of the failures in tree planting come from ignorance or indifference in this respect.

Of course the rules often given about spreading out roots, and poking the dirt in and about the

roots tight and firm, are of some value, but chiefly on account of this condition of things. The roots have to get their moisture from the earth, and if the earth does not touch the roots, they dry themselves, instead of draw moisture for the stem. So pruning at transplanting is a benefit, because there is less of branches to dry out, as, no matter how carefully a tree may be transplanted, there is some loss or drying of roots, and so a difficulty of keeping all parts moist.

It will thus be seen that tree planting is a simple thing. It is little more than care in keeping the roots from drying out.

### EARLY PEACHES.

Every now and then we have reports of some wonderfully early peach, that is usually ten days or two weeks ahead of something else. The wonder always is where these extra early peaches go to in time—whether to Boston or somewhere else. Certainly there seems to be no end of them. Early York was once a wonder, but Troth's Early put it to shame. Then came Hale's Early, then the Plowden, then the Early Beatrice, and now the Amsden, and we should not be surprised if some one does not appear next year "ten days" ahead of these, and so on through all time.

The horticultural and agricultural journals have continually commented on these suspicious facts, but still they come. And how can the conclusion as to the extra earliness be avoided? Here is a tree bearing fruit "side by side with another of the old variety." It is ripe, while the old one is still green. What else can the editor say to whom the specimens are sent? And yet it is known that certain conditions will affect trees, even of the same variety, as regards their earliness. This was the case with the Plowden. The original tree undoubtedly gave fruit earlier than the Hale's Early. The introducers were perfectly honest in their facts, and yet in the end it was proved there was no material difference, if any at all, between it and Hale's Early. It was not an early and different variety, —but,—but simply an early tree of the same thing.

But there is a remedy for all this if introducers will only take the trouble. Let a supposed new and extra early kind be budded on a healthy tree of the earliest already known, so that the test of its comparative earliness may be made from the same tree, and not from different trees. There is no reason why this should not be done, and the test would be complete.

There is another good point in the suggestion. Flower buds may be taken for budding as well a

leaf buds, and we have heard of this being done last season with the Amsden. In this way one would not wait two or three years to know exactly the character of some candidate for popular favor, but that can be decided the very next season. Let us have an early test by the inoculation of the fruit buds,—all the candidates for extra earliness all on one tree,—and then we shall know exactly what to do with them.

### Top-Dressing Meadows.

The results of a single top-dressing on eight plots of nearly half an acre each of sandy warm soil of our State Agricultural College Farm, says the *Michigan Farmer*, exhibited the following facts at the end of three years: The top-dressing was applied in 1864, and the grass was cut twice each season in 1864 and 1865, and once in 1866. The produce of each cutting and of each lot was weighed separately and a perfect record kept. The results for the four seasons were as follows: On the plot to which no manure or fertilizer was applied, the total weight of hay yielded per acre was 8,740 pounds. Where two bushels of plaster per acre was applied, the yield per acre was 13,226 pounds, a gain of 4,484 pounds. Where five bushels of wood ashes were applied, the yield per acre was 12,907 pounds, a gain of 4,165 pounds. Where three bushels of salt were sown per acre the yield was 13,969 pounds, a gain per acre of 5,227 pounds. Where twenty loads of muck per acre was laid on, the yield per acre was 13,816 pounds, a gain of 5,074 pounds. Where twenty loads of horse manure was laid on, the yield was 14,686 pounds, a gain of 6,224 pounds. These are results which indicate that there are fertilizers which will produce as good results as plaster. For instance, the plaster yielded a gain of fifty-one per cent., while the horse manure gave an increase of seventy-one per cent., or nearly a ton more grass per acre in the three years.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.—A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Agricultural College was held Thursday, September 17, in this city. Eight directors were present, and Dr. E. J. Henkle presided. The meeting ratified the action of the Board of Trustees in appointing T. Marshal Jones, Professor of Agriculture; A. B. Worthington, Professor of English Literature, and J. C. Clarkson, Professor of Chemistry and Natural Sciences, to fill vacancies occasioned by resignations in the faculty. Professor Clarkson is a graduate of Professor Tonry's class at the Maryland Institute.



*Agricultural Calendar.***FARM WORK FOR NOVEMBER.**

Of course the wheat is seeded and the rye. Corn has been cut off and tobacco housed. The greater part of autumn has been so far very fine for work on the farm.

**TOBACCO.**

Be careful in curing your tobacco, give it all the air and sun you can, and keep it free from all the dampness possible until in condition to strip, when the doors may be opened, if the rain does not drive in, to give enough dampness to bring it in a proper state to strip.

**CORN.**

As soon as the corn is dry enough to house, shuck it as quickly as you can, to get it in before wintry weather, for the longer it stays out the greater will be the loss.

**STOCK.**

Keep up the horses of night and bad weather to avoid if possible the epizootic, which is spreading over all this State and elsewhere. Give salt in plenty to all kinds of stock. Hogs must be penned and fed well to prepare them for the pickling tub next month. Remember that they fatten faster in mild weather than they do in cold weather. Give them good dry beds, clean water, a plenty and variety of fattening food, keep them clean, and free from mud and dirt; give charcoal and rotten wood, with now and then a little salt in the water, and have their slops seasoned always with salt. Attend to these directions, and you will have fine fat pork at no great expense. The way hogs are commonly fattened, pork costs more than it can be bought for. It is so high in price at this time, every person should get a few brood sows this autumn, of some improved breed, and raise their own pork.

**ORCHARD.**

Finish gathering apples and winter pears. This is perhaps the best month for making cider and apple-butter.

As to cider making, we have often given excellent recipes for making good cider, but we now give one, no doubt the best. Years ago we tried, if not this one, one which used sulphite of lime, but unless our memory fails us it was the identical recipe, with the sugar left out. We found it most valuable. We allude to Prof. Horsford's recipe for improving and preserving good cider. It is this:

"Put the new cider into clean casks or barrels, and allow it to ferment from one to three weeks, according as the weather is cool or warm. When

it has attained to lively fermentation, add to each gallon three-fourths of a pound of white sugar, and let the whole ferment again until it possesses nearly the brisk pleasant taste which it is desirable should be permanent. Pour out a quart of the cider, and mix with it one-quarter of an ounce of sulphite of lime for every gallon the cask contains. Stir it until it is intimately mixed, and pour the emulsion into the liquid. Agitate the contents of the cask thoroughly for a few moments, then let it rest that the cider may settle. Fermentation will be arrested at once, and will not be resumed. It may be bottled in the course of a few weeks, or it may be allowed to remain in the cask and used on draught. If bottled, it will become a sparkling cider of surpassing excellence."

The professor was the first to use the sulphite of lime, (not the sulphate, remember), being in no way deleterious, and to him is due the credit. The quality of the cider will remain unchanged for years, says that sterling old paper the *Germantown Telegraph*.

Set out a plenty of apple and other fruit trees, in the manner we recommended in the October number for 1875 of the *Maryland Farmer*. It is money well invested, both for profit and the comfort of the family. Among the fruit trees plant quinces; they occupy little room, are not much planted, and sell high for preserves. One lady in Prince George's, this year, after supplying herself and several neighbors, sent the refuse, or what were left, from less than thirty trees, to Baltimore, and for four barrels got \$20. This was evidence that they pay better than any other fruit.

This month be sure to set out forest trees and locust, and cherry and nut-bearing trees along the sides of the public roads and the permanent division fences on your farm. In after years, the tried and heated traveller, when resting under their grateful shade, will thank you and render blessings on the unknown man who planted or suffered to grow these noble trees to recuperate wasted energies. They will utter in their hearts, if they have not the ability to phrase in words, the following beautiful sentiments of the gifted poet Simms:

God bless the hand that planted these old trees,  
Here by the wayside. While the August sun  
Sends down his brazen arrows on the plain,  
They give us shelter. Panting in their shade  
We gaze upon the path o'er which we came,  
And in the green leaves overhead rejoice!  
Far as the eye may reach the sands spread out,  
A granulated blaze, pain the dim sense,  
And vex the slumberous spirit with their glare,  
Like some o'erpolished mirror, they give back  
The sun's intenser fires.

**WHY CATTLE REQUIRE SALT.**

It is sometimes that the question is asked,—why do cattle require salt? And there are still a great

many farmers who contend that sheep do not need salt in winter, and only at long intervals furnish their cattle with salt, when they give too much at one time. Prof. Johnson answers the question better than we can, therefore we adopt his scientific reasons and illustrations, according as they do with our long experience. He says:

We know why the animal craves salt, and why it ultimately falls into disease if salt is for a time withheld. Upwards of half the saline matter of the blood, (57 per cent.), consists of common salt; and as this is partly discharged every day through the skin and kidneys, the necessity of continued supplies of it to the body becomes sufficiently obvious. The bile also contains soda as a special and indispensable constituent, and so do all the cartilages of the body. Therefore, if the supply of salt be stinted, neither will the bile be able properly to assist the digestion, nor the cartilages be built up again as they naturally waste.

And when we consider it to be a fact, that without salt man would miserably perish; as among horrible punishments entailing certain death, that of feeding culprits on saltless food is said to have prevailed in barbarous times, we may become partially convinced, at least, of the necessity of feeding salt to our stock—that it is one of the necessities as well as one of the luxuries of life for man and beast; and it should be profusely provided at short intervals, in proper places, if it cannot be kept by them continually, so that each and every animal may satisfy the demands of his nature. Then it shall not be said of us, that while our pudding is well seasoned and salted, our stock are allowed to suffer for want of the same ingredient, which is as truly necessary for their food as for ours.

#### ADVANTAGES OF UNDERDRAINING.

By preventing adhesion and assisting pulverization, it allows the roots to pass freely into all parts of the soil.

By facilitating the mixture or manure through the pulverized portions, it greatly increases its value and effect.

It allows water falling on the surface to pass downward, carrying with it fertilizing substances, (as carbonic acid and ammonia), until they are arrested by the absorption of the soil.

It abstracts in a similar manner the heat contained in falling rains, thus warming the soil, the water discharged by drain-mouths being many degrees colder than ordinary rains.

The increased porosity of the soil renders it a more perfect non-conductor of heat, and the roots of plants are less injured by freezing in winter,

The same cause admits the entrance of air, facilitating the decomposition of enriching the soil.

By admitting early plowing, crops may be sown early, and an increase amount reaped in consequence.

It economizes labor, by allowing the work to go on at all times, without interruption from surplus water in spring, or from a hard baked soil in summer.

We clip from an exchange the above sensible reasons for underdraining, and as this month and the next will be a good time for such work, we commend to our farmers to read and remember them.

#### SAVING AND KEEPING MANURE.

Save all the manure you can and make provision for keeping it under cover. Animal manures exposed to the leaching effects of rain and the evaporation of the sun, lose, as experiment shows, nearly one-half of their soluble plant food. It is true economy to build sheds to put it under. Cover the barn and cattle yards at least a foot deep with rich earth, mould, leaves and refuse vegetable matter of any and every sort. It will absorb the liquid manure, and be a rich bank from which to draw in the spring to increase the product.

#### ROOTS OF ALL KINDS.

Take up roots of all kinds before severe frosts, and, as fast as dug, put them away securely.

#### FIRE WOOD.

Look to getting in a good wood pile before we have snow.

#### ICE PONDS.

Be careful to see that the ponds you rely upon for ice, are well made before the ground freezes.

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## GARDEN WORK.

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### GARDEN WORK FOR NOVEMBER.

There is not much to be done in the garden, except securing what winter vegetables you have grown. Cabbages must be taken up and put away before severe frosts. Beets or turnips also must be buried or put in the cellar. Parsnips, carrots and salsify may be left where grown, to be taken up in small quantities for use during the winter. Finish earthing up the celery, and cover the tops with leaves or straw and then dirt, in a rick shape, and, as winter sets in, cover with more leaves or straw and lay planks over the tops of the rows or beds.

*Garden herbs, gooseberries, currants, raspberries, blackberries and flowering shrubs*, may now all be set out or transplanted.

Bulbous roots must be early set out in beds.

*Spinach* and other *small salads* should be hoed and thinned.

*Strawberries* may yet be planted on rich soil, but it ought to be done at once. As winter sets in cover these plants with straw.



## The Second Annual Exhibition of the Harford County Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

The second annual meeting of the Harford County Agricultural Society was held at Belair, the county seat, on the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th days of October, 1875, and having propitious weather, with other favorable circumstances, it proved a grand success, especially for a society in its infancy.

We had the pleasure of attending the meeting and were much gratified to behold the masses of people who were present, estimated by good judges to be from four to seven thousand persons each day. We rarely ever have seen such a throng of people, and never half as many carriages and vehicles at any time, on even the great days of meetings of the Maryland Jockey Club at Pimlico. Had the wagons, carriages, &c., been arranged one after another in a line, it would have been over two miles in length. And almost without an exception, they all, as well as the stock exhibited, belonged to Harford county. It was truly a grand outpouring of the farmers and their families, of the county, who one and all, old and young, seemed to manifest the deepest interest, and desirous to aid personally in promoting the success of the institution, as if each was an active member or stockholder. Thus harmony, good humor and enthusiasm was universal, and it literally was the jubilee of the farmers' annual re-union. The arrangements were most excellent, and perfect order prevailed—owing perhaps in part to the commendable regulation, which other counties would do well to imitate—that of discountenancing the use of strong drink, and positively forbidding the sale of it. Politics were also carefully eschewed, and the minds, hearts and conversations were all absorbed in the great interests of agriculture, horticulture, mechanics and household manufactures, &c.

We cannot too heartily congratulate the farmers of Harford upon the glory with which they covered themselves on this second great gathering of the brothers of the plow—hardy sons of toil!

The general show of animals was highly creditable to the stock-owners of the county. There were some one hundred and fifty horses on exhibition, and among them many fine animals for various purposes, such as slow-draft, quick-draft, roadsters, breeders, &c.—all, we think, owned and bred in the county.

**Cattle.**—The display was a most creditable one, chiefly of grades of fair quality; a few short-horns, two 4 year old grade short-horns, fat steers, very superior; one fine yoke of well-broken Devon

oxen, and some young Devons of remarkable beauty.

The splendid Herefords of Col. John Merryman, of Hayfields, Baltimore county, were present to take, as usual, all the premiums in that line, and attracted great attention, particularly his noble cow with a young calf at her side. This, we believe, was the only stock at the Fair outside of the county.

Mr. Merryman had also his fine drovers' dog with his stock. These dogs are very valuable to the sheep and cattle breeders and graziers. It is strange more of them are not found on our farms in place of useless curs and other really worthless dogs. They intelligently mind and drive cattle and sheep, and protect the latter from their two and four-footed enemies.

The tiny, beautiful Kerry cattle, of Henry D. Farnandis, Esq., were the admiration of the crowd, and their beauties were conceded by all, but some old utilitarian octogenarians we heard speculating upon and discussing their intrinsic worth with considerable warmth. We thought them beautiful, and at a short distance, viewing them in a position where their horns could not be seen, seemed like large black bears, but a gentleman we overheard, likened them, more appropriately, to the Devon, and said they were, or ought to be called, *black Devons*. They are as beautiful in form as the Devon, and were they red instead of black, would be pronounced perfect Devons in miniature. We learned that they give rich milk and in fair quantity to their size. We have no doubt that they afford the nicest and the most delicate beef; as the South-down is to the larger breeds of sheep, for mutton, or the Bantam and Game, compared with the large Eastern fowls, so the Kerry meat is, no doubt, in delicacy, compared favorably to the meat of the Atlantic Short-Horns or the elephantine Herefords. We may have occasion to speak more at large hereafter, about these lawn-ornamental-cattle.

The chief feature of the cattle department, was the class of Jerseys, but *here* called Alderneys; why we cannot tell, when the former term is the fashionable cognomen, and the Jersey herd book breeders would be offended to be said to have Alderneys. We smiled at the thought, how Messrs. Garrett, Jenkins and others would have looked on seeing the cards:—"A—full-bred Alderney, by Mr. J. W. G.'s bull B— and C— by Col. J.'s Alderney, imp. bull D—." After all a rose would smell as sweet by any other name, and we really have felt it was all nonsense, to draw so severe a distinction between the Sister Islands of Alderney and Jersey, as the owners of this fashionable breed of cattle have of late years done, and are going still further into a fallacy of breeding, not for intrinsic qualities for

dairy purposes, but like pigeon fanciers, breeding to a feather, they are endeavoring to make color a standard, irrespective of the great qualifications that have made this breed celebrated the world over for the dairy.

There was a large display, and a large number of these, so labelled Alderneys, were fine specimens of the breed. We noticed among these a superior bull of Mr. Farnandis, who had some beautiful cows also. This valuable and paramount to all other breeds of cattle for the dairy, seems to have taken a deep hold upon the popular mind of the Harford farmers, and no doubt they have been stimulated thereto by what we hear is about to be established, namely, cheese and butter factories in the county. From what we have read, and had communicated verbally to us by those who are knowing on the subject, such enterprises, if properly conducted, always prove profitable to the stockholders or single proprietors, and eminently promote the pecuniary interest of each individual who furnishes milk, and add immensely to the general prosperity of the immediate community in which they are established.

*Sheep.*—There were not many sheep, but some good ones of the different most esteemed breeds. The Southdown seemed to be most popular, and had supremacy in numbers. Of this breed, we saw some good rams, that would have looked better if they had been fat. Mr. Scott and Mr. Farnandis both had some fine ewes and ewe-lambs of this breed.

*Hogs.*—The number of hogs were limited, but would have done credit to any county or State exhibition in the Union. There were some fine Berkshires, splendid Chesters, fine Yorkshires and beautiful Essex. Of the latter two, although we know they are a popular hog in the North, particularly the Essex, yet we cannot help believing that they have too little hair for even Maryland climate, under the treatment which hogs generally receive in this section. This is nothing against the breeds, but rather a just reflection on the rough usage this often ill-used beast receives, which is poor economy and cruel. At the present day there is no domestic meat-yielding animal that contributes more to human sustenance than the hog, yet, in this State, it has the worst treatment. He is starved, and left out in the cold to freeze, and if in self defence, to save his life, for the benefit lastly of his owner, he perchance gets out of the storm in a corn shock, there to be warm and to get food at the same time, he is routed out and dogged, until his ears are torn off and he is otherwise wounded and mutilated, amid the jeering whoops of his persecutors, who,

in a few months after, will revel in glee, like South Sea Islanders, over his carcass served up in a dozen ways for their delectation. Public attention is evidently turned and properly so, to the raising of more pork within our realm, and the people of Harford have set their neighbors of other counties a good example in procuring good breeds, from which alone can pork be raised economically and with profit.

*Poultry.*—We were surprised that in Harford there should have been so poor an exhibition of poultry, but on reflection we concluded that as the Gunpowder river gave them all they wanted in that line, except chickens, from a reed bird to the canvass back and swan, simply for the shooting of them, they were not necessitated to pay much attention to this family industry, still it would perhaps be wise to get the best breeds and take care of them, for home as well as for market, and keep them from chicken stealers, by secure houses, watch dogs in the poultry houses, not outside, for if outside, a few grains of strichnine ends the alarm and the dog too. Ladies tell us, in every part of the State, that chicken stealers are more hurtful to their success in poultry raising, than cur dogs are to the sheep owners. Let all join then in getting the incoming Legislature to enact such laws as will put the two and four-legged dogs on an equality, and deal out to them justice in a form so terrible as will deter further outrages in both these important branches of useful and important rural occupations.

The horticultural and domestic manufacture department was a separate building, but too small to hold a twentieth of the persons present, consequently it was impossible almost to get in, much less to critically view the many objects of interest therein to be seen. The fruits were fine, but the exhibition was not large. The vegetables were superior in every class shown. The cereals offered were very good. There were some very fine specimens of the new varieties of potato, such as the Early Vermont, Snow Flake and Compton's Surprise. In the offering of Peerless potato there were some immense ones.

Mr. Hyde, of Boothby Hall, was there with a fine display; his golden Trophy tomato was greatly admired.

In the ladies' department, we got only a glimpse, such was the crowd, of a quantity of beautiful needle work, and preserves, pickles, and drinks of all sorts, and every sort of superior household manufactures, satisfying us that Harford is the land for the young men of certain portions of Maryland, we wot of, to go to, to take a wife, *if he can*, provided he wants a notable, accomplished housewife,



educated and refined, yet an adept in house-keeping mysteries, who would be a real helpmate and not an expensive toy.

The society inaugurated some novel and quite attractive features for the amusement of the young, and indeed the old visitors seemed much delighted with them. These novelties were climbing a greasy pole, wheel-barrow racing, the contestants blindfolded; corn husking, potato picking and plowing matches; all these three were very useful and properly connected with the objects of the association. We had then an amusing Slow-race, and a very exciting Roman chariot race, which riveted the attention of the crowd, and filled the grand stand to suffocation. There were trials of speed every day, mostly contested by the owners of horses in the county. The time was not extra, but showed that there was improvement already, and a spirit of rivalry excited which will doubtless lead to great improvement in the trotting stock of this section of the State and thereby add greatly to its material wealth, by attracting foreign capital and bringing into notice a land, whose qualities and value have too long been unknown to the outside world.

From the Grand Stand we had a fine view of the fertile and highly cultivated Winters' Run Valley, and a picturesque scene presents itself all around. The grounds are level and the buildings well arranged for the convenience and comfort of visitors, but the public stands and the floral hall are too limited, but no doubt will the coming year be extended to meet the immense crowds that have heretofore exceeded the expectations of the most sanguine members of the board of managers of the association. They are the right men in the right place, and will no doubt keep full pace with the progress of the interest now manifested in the great cause, for the success of which this association was started, and now completely organized on a solid basis.

We had the pleasure of meeting our editorial brothers, J. M. Street, Esq., of the *Harford Democrat*, and Secretary to the Association, and F. W. Baker, Esq., of the *Ægis*, from both of whom we received the kindest attention.

A prominent feature in the conduct of this Association, we noticed, was the attention shown to strangers and visitors from abroad. This course is calculated to bring the society into high repute, and all who go to these annual festivals of the farmers and daughters of Harford, will be rewarded far beyond the mere exhibition, by the warm welcome, and hearing the hearty greetings of the various competitors and friends, after one year's separation. It sometimes happens at these fairs, a stranger is left to look out for himself, after he gets his com-

plimentary ticket. Not so at Belair. He is taken around, shown the most striking objects, introduced to the prominent lady and gentlemen exhibitors, by which he gains much valuable information through conversation, and gets a clear insight into the habits, manners and customs of the people. He can judge pretty well in what lies the tendency of the progressive improvement and prosperity, which the encouraging exhibition before him manifests. They too, are never weary of attending to the "wants of the inner man" of their guests, until it requires a strong will to enable failing humanity to *stand up*, under the constant pressure.

We are especially indebted to Henry Farnandis, Esq., for the warm welcome, and a bountiful hospitality at his beautiful homestead—*Stockdale*—presided over by his charming and accomplished lady. The "stranger within their gates" feels at once at home and at ease.

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MAKING APPLE BUTTER.—A North Carolina correspondent to the *Rural New Yorker* communicates the following receipt for making good apple butter:

"I make apple butter only from apples; I have a brass kettle holding twenty-five gallons, in which I boil 20 gallons sweet cider down to 5 gallons, which makes a nice sweet syrup. This is put away in jars for the present. Then put four bushels peeled apples, quartered, in a brass kettle and boil it to a mash with 20 gallons sweet cider, without stirring, over a slow fire. Then take the mashed apples out and strain with a strainer, and put the strained mash in tubs, and put away for next day. Next day strain early and put the strained mash in the brass kettle again, and the 5 gallons of boiled cider or syrup. Then stir it with a long-handled stirrer of wood with half-inch holes in it, over a slow fire. This boiling and straining takes from twelve to fifteen hours' steady work.

"The apple butter is in this way condensed, and will keep for years without being enclosed entirely air-tight. Before I use it at the table I add as much cream, milk or sugar and water as there is apple butter. But to make a perfect apple butter, it takes other materials to do it. Take peaches, pears, or blue and yellow plums, peel and quarter them and boil them to a mash with good cider; strain and work it as you would the apples. After it is done, put away in jars like apple butter, and when the grapes are ripe take your first apple butter made from peaches, pears, &c., mix it up in the kettle again and boil the whole up in ten gallons of grape juice. This will make a delicate preserve, which condensed is worth fifty cents per pound anywhere. I am selling annually, without any difficulty, 1,000 pounds. Add spice, cinnamon, and if one desires apple butter sweeter, sugar to taste."

## RESOURCES OF MARYLAND.

The Department of Agriculture, in its report for August and September, furnished an interesting paper on the Resources of Maryland, giving valuable statistical and geographical information, of great importance to the people of the State, as well as to such immigrants, and all other persons who may be looking about for a home, or place of business, and in doubt where in the wide Union to settle.

This article, of which we give below the main points, speaks of the productive soil, market facilities, population, healthy climate, values of the farming lands, farm products and general physical and moral power and resources of the State. The article, excellent as it is, would have been more complete had it dilated upon the treasures of the Maryland waters and mines, and the immense water power in the State to be utilized by manufacturing. This essay ought to be printed in hand bill form, by the Patrons of Husbandry and other land owners in the State, and circulated broadcast over the Northern and Southern portion of this country and in Europe.

### BRIEF VIEW OF THE STATE.

Maryland is one of the smaller States, having an area, according to land office records, of 11,124 square miles; Vermont, New Hampshire and New Jersey being next in size on one side, and on the other Indiana comes nearest, though three times as large, having 33,809 square miles. Its advantages as an agricultural section are probably not well understood, and therefore not sufficiently appreciated, at least by the people of other States. Among these advantages are a medium temperature, a healthful climate, a varied surface, soil of average productiveness, proximity to great markets, good railroad facilities, and remarkable abundance of water communication. There are soils of great productiveness and durability, and the poorer lands are susceptible of improvement by cheap and abundant local fertilizers, such as fish-chum, seaweed and sea-ooze, oyster-shell and other lime, marl, and the fertilizing refuse of neighboring cities, brought cheaply by water transportation. Farms have been increased in value from five to ten fold by these inexpensive means, in connection with clovering, stock feeding, etc., paying all the time the expenses of such improvement in more remunerative yields. Its shape is irregular, the Potomac and its north branch constituting the southern and western boundaries, while its northern line runs west through nearly four degrees of longitude, and its eastern through nearly two degrees of latitude, this width decreasing to a few miles between Pennsylvania and Virginia, at a point a little west of Harper's Ferry, yet more than a hundred miles distant from the western boundary of the State. The range of elevation is about 3,000 feet, giving additional variety to production and opportunity to its denizens for choice of a sea-shore residence or a mountain retreat. The mean temperature of the year is about

52 degrees; the mean for January varies from 27 to 37 degrees, and for July from 75 to 80 degrees. Rarely in winter does the temperature fall to ten degrees above zero, though in the past ten years it has a few times fallen a little below zero. Except in a few undrained locations, in the tide-water region, there is exemption from malaria, and the general healthfulness of higher elevations surpasses that of New England, and equals that of the most healthful districts of New York and Pennsylvania. Indeed the Blue Ridge and the Alleghany range, from Maryland to North Carolina inclusive, are unsurpassed in salubrity by any section of the United States east of the Rocky mountains. In this respect the tide-water region will compare favorably with a large portion of New Jersey, and the State of Delaware, nearly all of which lies alongside of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and both between the Delaware and Chesapeake bays.

### POPULATION.

The population of Maryland is very small in proportion to its capacity to subsist its people, and yet it is as almost densely settled as Pennsylvania, having seventy inhabitants to the square mile in 1870, while the Keystone State had 76. The total numbers, according to the last census, were 780,894, an increase in ten years of 93,845. The number of the colored class was 175,391 in 1860, and 171,131 in 1870. Of the former number 87,189 were slaves and 83,942 free. Baltimore city and county had then forty-two per cent. of the whole population.

### FARM PRODUCTIONS.

The State of Maryland produces a full supply of breadstuffs, and has a small surplus to spare, of quality unsurpassed in the United States. Hay is growing into importance, as the central, northern and western counties are peculiarly adapted to the production of the best grasses and of clover. Dairying and wool-growing are also profitable, and favorable conditions for their prosecution exist in nearly all parts of the State. The Eastern Shore is unexcelled for the production of fruits and vegetables for profitable shipment to northern markets; and it is believed grape-growing would be a profitable industry there. In various portions of the State tobacco is still a prominent crop, and the reduction in quantity is more apparent than real, the heavy internal revenue tax on this staple having the effect to suppress nearly half the record of its production. The crop of 1859 is stated at 38,410,965 pounds, while that of 1869 is but 15,785,339 pounds. Frederick county bears the palm for production of corn and wheat. In 1869 she raised 1,360,420 bushels of corn, and 1,133,623 bushels of wheat. Prince George's county, in the same year, produced 3,665,054 pounds of tobacco. Calvert county stands next, with 3,158,200 pounds, and Anne Arundel next, with 3,020,955 pounds.

### VALUE OF PRODUCTS.

Of the products corn yield about 12,000,000 bushels; wheat about 6,000,000 bushels; tobacco about 16,000,000 pounds; hay about 225,000 tons; butter about 500,000 pounds; milk sold about 1,000,500 gallons, and wool about 500,000 pounds. The value of the annual productions, including those of the orchard, market, garden and forest, as well as home manufactures and animals slaughtered, amounts to about \$43,000,000. The value of live stock is about \$18,500,000.



## AVERAGE VALUE OF LANDS.

The census of 1870 states that there were 2,914,000 acres of improved land and 1,598,572 acres unimproved, at an average value of \$37.75 per acre. This valuation is an increase of 25 per cent. over that of 1860, and notwithstanding the changes brought about by the subversion of slave labor and the prostration of industrial pursuits by the war. All sections of the State did not fare alike in these changes. The counties that declined in farm values are Anne Arundel, Calvert, Prince George's, Charles and St. Mary's, though the difference is slight in most of them.

The highest value is in Baltimore county, \$88.98, and the lowest in Wicomico, near the southern extremity of the peninsula. Washington, a rich agricultural region on the Potomac, near the mouth of the Shenandoah, a productive and well improved country, containing farms, some of which before the war were held at \$100 to \$150 per acre, was returned in 1870 at \$61.58 per acre, a very high average for farm lands, but less than their real value in this case. The next highest value was \$56.34, in Cecil, the northeast corner of the State, a good fruit region, very accessible. The average in Kent, the next county southward, on the Eastern Shore, was \$53.74; and that in Frederick, next east of Washington, on the northern border, \$53.68. Those between \$50 and \$40 per acre are, respectively, Howard, Carroll and Harford, the two former west of Baltimore, the latter on its eastern border. Talbot and Prince George's are valued at very near the average for the State. The counties having lands less valuable are, in their order, Queen Anne's, Anne Arundel, Montgomery, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, Calvert, St. Mary's, Worcester, Allegany, Charles and Wicomico. Allegany has recently been divided, the western portion being made a separate county under the name of Garrett.

It will thus be seen the lands of highest price are on the northern border of the State, and those of medium and low price on the eastern and western shores of the Chesapeake. Some of these lands are rich, though, like the tide-water lands of the Atlantic coast generally, a large proportion are only of moderate natural fertility. The facilities for fertilization are remarkable for abundance and cheapness, marl being abundant and near the surface, and sea-weed and fish and oyster shell lime everywhere accessible and cheap. The last assessment in Baltimore county, in 1865, valued farms and unimproved lands at \$40,000,000. Prices have since then greatly advanced near the city. Within a distance of ten to fifteen miles from Baltimore the prices range from \$100 to \$2,000 per acre. Beyond that limit improved farms, with buildings, orchards, &c., bring \$70 to \$200 per acre. Timber land is worth from \$50 to \$200 per acre. A sandy loam predominates near Baltimore, and is very suitable for gardening and fruit growing.

In Montgomery county the rates for medium lands have advanced from \$15 and \$20 per acre in 1870 to \$20 and \$25 per acre. Some wild lands, susceptible of improvement at a reasonable outlay, can be had at \$8 to \$10 per acre.

In Harford county the price of land has fallen since 1870 from \$40 per acre to \$30. The surface is well wooded and watered, and fine water-powers are abundant. The portion bordering on the

Chesapeake is comparatively level, with soil of light loam, and others in which clay predominates; other sections quite undulating. It is estimated that about one-fifth of the farms are for sale at something like the above figures.

One-third of the lands in Carroll can be purchased at the present time at low rates. The "worn-out" or unused fields can be had at about \$10 per acre. It is hilly and somewhat rocky, drained by the tributaries of the Patapsco and Monocacy.

Frederick is a fine farming county. A yield of eighty bushels of corn and forty bushels of wheat has frequently been obtained, and a few persons have exceeded even these high figures. Good farms in the best limestone districts bring \$88 to \$90; clayey soils \$65 to \$70; and hill lands \$10 to \$20.

Howard county has a variety of soil, and a quantity of worn-out lands which can be improved by judicious farming and made profitable. They can be bought for \$10 per acre. Other lands, according to location, sell for \$30 to \$100 per acre.

In Washington county the best land sells for \$80 to \$100 per acre, and medium soil at about \$50. This county and its neighbor Frederick are the best wheat counties in the State, perhaps in the United States.

Anne Arundel lands, which commanded \$100 per acre before the war, are now estimated at \$40; and the average at \$20.

Calvert county lands range from \$4 to \$40 per acre, and those of Charles county from \$3 to \$20. In St. Mary's county the prices range from \$10 to \$60 per acre.

## LANDS ON THE EASTERN SHORE.

The prices of land in the Eastern Shore section are quite high in the northern part, though low at the southern extremity of the peninsula, but the value of annual production is highest in Cecil of any county in the State, and nearly as high in Kent. It is a region of great resources and large capabilities, in which climate and water transportation play an important part.

Cecil is at the head of Chesapeake bay, and is intersected by Elk and North rivers. The soil of the northwestern section is granitic. Values have declined since 1870, prices now ranging from \$10 to \$100. There is some marsh land, valued at \$15 to \$20, for pasture. The best land is in the western border, and on bottoms, but all requires fertilizing.

Kent lies between the Chesapeake and the line of Delaware, with the Sassafra river as its northern boundary and the Chester as its southern. It has a rolling surface and a soil of medium quality, susceptible of high improvement. The usual yield of wheat is twelve bushels, running from six to twenty-five.

Queen Anne's is a central county of this belt, lying between Chester river on one side and Caroline and Tuckahoe on the other, with an undulating surface, free from rocks, reasonably fertile, with abundant underlying deposit of marl. Prices have declined somewhat since 1870. A red-clay soil yields twenty bushels of wheat, 40 bushels of corn, and from 1½ to 2 tons of hay; a heavy white-clay, 15 bushels of wheat and 1½ tons of hay, and a yellow soil is found to be especially adapted to fruits. One-sixth of these lands, mostly unimproved, could be bought at \$15.



Caroline and Talbot come next on the south, separated by the Tuckahoe. Talbot is on the Chesapeake, and the Choptank separates it from Dorchester on the south. Three-fourths of the lands of Caroline could be purchased at prices ranging from \$10 to \$100. The tracts are not offered in parcels, and purchasers are mostly from Pennsylvania and Vermont. Improved farms range in value from \$20 to \$125 per acre. Dorchester has a clay-loam soil, light in one section and stiff in another, productive with judicious fertilizing. Prices of farms range from \$10 to \$50 per acre. Three-fifths of the lands of Worcester, which are very similar to the above, are for sale at \$3 to \$25 per acre. One-fourth of the farms of Somerset are for sale at \$5 to \$40.

*From the American Artisan.*

### Death of Vines, Bushes, etc., after Exceptionally Cold Winters.

The writer has several hundred red raspberry bushes of a choice variety. They generally withstand the winter, but occasionally, after a very cold season, or when the ground has been less protected by snow than usual, they fail to put forth in the spring, so that it is safest to cover them in the fall. Last fall they were neglected, and last spring they failed to come out. An old gardener who examined them said, "the sap had all been frozen out of them," and this freezing out of the sap he considered as in all cases the cause of the death of vines and shrubs after unusually cold winters. The gardener's explanation was hardly satisfactory, and the question, "How came the bushes to die?" became the subject of reflection. It is not easy to understand how the sap could be "frozen out," aside from the fact that when the cold is severest there is but little sap in the stalk. If freezing alone were sufficient to destroy the bushes, they could not survive any winter in this climate, for not a year passes during which they are not, at some time, whether covered up or not, frozen through and through from the topmost bud to the lowest rootlet. The thin coating of earth, straw, or manure, which they generally receive, can make, at most, but an inch or two difference in the penetration of the frost, which in all cases goes below the roots. If mere freezing does not kill, how can a few degrees lower temperature in an unusually cold winter injure the already frozen bush? It is not difficult to see how freezing may destroy organic life, either animal or vegetable. The expansion of the fluids in congealing ruptures the containing capillary vessels, and breaks up the minute and delicate cellular structure. But when the bush is once completely frozen, the greatest expansion has been reached, and greater cold cannot in any way increase injury from this source. Moreover

if expansion of the fluids is the cause of destruction, how happens it that the portion containing the most fluids, namely, the root, survives when the stalk is killed? But whatever the cause, the facts remain unquestioned, viz., the bushes are killed by winters of exceptional severity, unless covered in the fall, and when covered they invariably escape. How does the covering protect them?

Upon examining these bushes after the time when they should have begun to leave out, and when other bushes, not killed, were putting forth finely, plenty of sap appeared in and near the root, but above, the stalk, and especially the bark and buds, were found comparatively dry, almost as though the bush had been for some time cut off. The sap, whether "frozen out" or not, was certainly *out*, and however thrifty, vigorous, and sappy the root, no sap could find its way up into the stalk, whatever the reason might be. The buds when broken open showed the rudimentary leaf in the form of a green kernel enclosed in a dried-up envelope.

A theory suggested itself. The frost had been very deep, the spring was uncommonly tardy, the ground for these reasons remaining cold, and the roots remaining torpid much later than usual. Might not, under these conditions, the stalk and buds, exposed to the sun and winds of spring, so long before they could get sap from the torpid root, become so dried out and the sap-vessels so contracted that the sap could not find its way up? If this theory were correct, might not the cause be removed by artificially moistening the stalk in some way? Acting upon this as a plausible or at least possible hypothesis, three bushes were bent down to the ground and covered with moist earth. At the expiration of eight days they were taken up. The buds had put forth their leaves from half an inch to an inch, pale from lack of light, but healthy and vigorous. The stalks were staked up, and the leaves soon got their color. These three bushes have since done well, and now—July 10—they show about the usual quantity of berries. The theory seemed to be corroborated by the experiment, at least sufficiently to make it worthy of further observation and further investigation.

If it be true the covering of bushes and vines protects them, not against the direct action of the cold in winter, but against the drying influence of the sun and winds of spring until the root is fairly warmed into life, it seems quite probable that all the bushes in the lot above mentioned might have been saved like the three upon which the experiment was tried, by being put down and covered with earth in the spring. This, however, cannot be considered as certain, nor the theory by any means as demonstrated. But it may be of interest enough to lay before your readers, some of whom may be disposed to consider it and perhaps to experiment upon it. C.

## POTOMAC FRUIT GROWERS.

OCTOBER SESSION.

The regular monthly meeting was held on the first Tuesday of the month, at the board of trade rooms; C. Gillingham, President, in the chair, and J. E. Snodgrass, Secretary. There was a goodly attendance of ladies and gentlemen, and the show of fruit was splendid, including apples, grapes, pears, peaches and some vegetables.

After the transaction of some society business, the following letter was read by the secretary:

GEORGETOWN, D. C., Oct. 4, 1875.

J. E. Snodgrass, Esq., Secretary Potomac Fruit Growers' Association:

DEAR SIR:—I comply with your request with pleasure, and herewith send you the specimens grown in my garden from Japanese seeds, viz: No. 1, *Eto-woo-re*, or stringed melon. The vine is very luxuriant, and if planted near a tree will run over all the branches, so that the fruit looks as if produced by the tree itself. When young, about eight inches long, and tender, it is boiled, cut up into small pieces and then salted, when it is considered a great delicacy. A liquid obtained from the vine is a certain cure for coughs and asthma. When fully matured the pulp makes a kind of sponge. [It is much like our okra in shape and taste.]

No. 2, Tonasz, or green squash; (also a small one). This is eaten only when fully grown, and is highly valued in Japan.

No. 3, Cisco, or salad plant. One variety is eaten as we do the cress, when young, and its seeds with the whole top when dry are cut up and mixed with dry salt, and is highly appreciated as a condiment. Another variety produces a fine oil, which is used in the manufacture of umbrellas, &c. Yours, very respectfully,

CHARLES LANMAN.

## CHICAGO CONVENTION.

Colonel Curtiss was called upon to speak of the late POMOLOGICAL CONVENTION in Chicago, and gave some details of the exhibition.

Mr. P. H. Troth also gave an account of the exhibition of fruit from the Potomac region.

Mr. Snodgrass said that he had recently had occasion to note the progress of fruit growing in West Virginia, and was glad to say that great progress had been made there. The recent exhibition at the Montgomery county (Maryland) fair also indicated that the fruit interest was rising in that section.

President Gillingham read a paper on fruits and fruit growing and insects.

## FRUITS ON THE TABLES.

John Saul, of Washington city, exhibited a quantity of flowers, and also the following pears; General Taylor, Beurre Brettonean, Winter Nelis, Baronne deMelo, Bergarmotte, Cadette, Doy Dillon, Easter Beurre, Columbia, General Lamarciere, Doy Diel, Beurre Berckmans, Doy d' Hiver d' Alencon, Beurre Langaher, Chancellor, DeLamarine, Doy Gaubault, Oswego Beurre, St. Janian, Crosse, Henry IV., Figue de Plencon and the Duchess d' Angouleme.

Wm. Saunders, a fine lot, of many varieties, of splendid pears, produced on young trees on his farm, at Muirkirk, Md.

S. H. Snowden, of Collingwood, exhibited the

following specimens of apples: Smith's cider, Cabbagehead pippin, Paradise, Roxbury russet and the Health cling and Seedling cling peaches, and the Seckel and Dutchess pears.

Maj. H. A. Myers exhibited some large specimens of the Beurre Clairgeau pear.

H. T. Scott, of Bladensburg, exhibited as specimens of grapes the Diana, Delaware, Ives, Goethe, Concord, Rebecca, Ives, (second crop), Alvey, Catawba and Norton's Virginia Clinton.

Col. Curtiss exhibited for Col. H. Pitts, of Uniontown, three varieties of pears; and for H. Halley, Md., large specimens of the Beurre Easter pear; and for S. Stabler, of Sandy Springs, Maryland, the Blush pippin and Paradise apples.

Dr. Howland stated that Prof. Wm. Seaman, of the Agricultural Department, was present, and would be glad to take some of the finer specimens of fruit on the sample table, for the purpose of obtaining models for them, and the above were, therefore, given to him.

## NEW MEMBERS.

Messrs. J. T. Stockbridge and H. A. Myers, of Washington, were elected members of the association.

The next order of business was the testing and naming of fruits on the sample table, during which many useful points in fruit culture were drawn out.

After the exhibition of fruit the president announced that at the next monthly meeting Mr. Saunders would read a paper on pruning, and that papers would also be read by Messrs. Snowden and Gillingham on apple culture.

The Society then adjourned to meet at the same place on the first Tuesday in November, when the public are cordially invited to be present.

It was thought and suggested by some members that it is advisable for fruit growers to give more attention to pears, as peach growing is already overdone. Grow seasonsble pears for "all the year round."

D. S. C.

## SAGE CHEESES.

We give Mr. Fuller's mode of making this delicious cheese:

Green sage is used for obtaining the flavor. A quantity of leaves and stems about the size of one's wrist, and six inches long, is taken for 100 pounds of curd. The green sage is run through a common sausage machine, and then soaked in water over night, and in the morning the water is pressed out and strained off, and added to a vat of milk by itself at the time the rennet is applied.

For coloring, bean leaves are taken and also put through the sausage cutter, then steeped in water over night and the liquid strained off in the morning and added to a vat of milk by itself. The two vats of milk are curded off separately and just before salting, the curds are thrown together and intimately intermingled by stirring, when they are salted and go to press. In this way the green and white curds coming together give the cheese a beautifully mottled appearance. Sage cheese commands an extra price that amply pays for the trouble of preparing it, and is esteemed as a great delicacy by many.



## Fair Treatment of Teams.

There is no one thing, if well heeded and continually practiced, that will be more beneficial to farmers than kind treatment of their domestic animals—teams as well as cows and sheep. In a late number of the *Farmer*, I had an article on that subject, and wish the sentiment could become general; and in that direction I am glad to find and copy the following from the *Practical Farmer*, in regard to the fair treatment of teams which tug and toil so faithfully for us, in all weathers and places:

"There is a certain number of pounds that a team can draw day after day and not worry them, but if more be added, even as little as fifteen or twenty pounds, they walk unsteadily, fret and soon tire. No amount of feeding will keep them in condition. I have many plows in use on which it has been an easy matter to decrease the draft twenty-five pounds, and if men had been drawing them instead of horses it would have been done. It must be plain to the farmer than every pound taken from the draft of his plow is so much gained for his horses. It may be done in this way:

For any soil except sand or gravel, use a steel plow. Their cost is but little more, and the draft enough less to pay the difference in plowing twenty acres. In plowing sod the coulter does a great deal of the work, and should be kept sharp by forging at the blacksmith's and grinding every day if necessary. Of course it will wear out sooner, but new coulters are cheaper than new teams. Set the coulter in line with the plow, the edge square in front, with an angle of 45° from the point to where it is attached to the beam. When the share gets worn out it is poor economy to use it any longer, but replace it with a new one. Let the traces be as short as will allow the horses to walk without hitting their heels against the whiffletrees, and have pressure enough of the wheels on the ground to make the plow run steady. If the handles crowd continually one way, the draft is not right, and if the plow is a good one it can be easily remedied at the clevis. To prevent the horses stepping over the traces in turning, fasten a weight of about three-fourths of a pound on the outside of each single tree—that is, on the right end when you turn to the left, and *vice versa*. Every farmer knows that horses are susceptible to kindness and equally so to unkindness. I have seen horses that were working steadily made reckless with sweat in a short time by a sharp word or a jerk on the bit. Let your horses do their work as you do yours, as easily as possible, and be as willing to overlook their mistakes as you would the mistakes of human beings."

D. S. C.

## Do we Sow too much Grain to the Acre.

A correspondent of the *Rural World* has been making some very interesting experiments concerning a matter which is just now gaining considerable thought among agriculturists. He writes:

In the grasshopper district, where everybody is looking for some substitute of late growth for their destroyed wheat, oats, &c., and where seed is not, and money to buy with about as scarce as seed, it is important to know, not so necessarily how much seed to buy, as to know how little is necessary for a given number of acres. Seeking knowledge from old farmers who ought to know, and finding so wide a range of views as to quantity, I determined to weigh and count small quantities, and thus by calculation to arrive at about a proper quantity to plant. Beginning with turnips—purple top strap leaf—I took one drachm, avoirdupois, and found, by actual count, it contained 1,667 sound seed, or 26,832 in one ounce, 429,312 in one pound. One drachm of millet contains 1,165, one ounce 18,640, one pound 298,240, and one bushel, 14,912,000 seeds. Two ounces (counted) of buckwheat contains 1,525, one pound 18,600, and one bushel 967,200 sound seed. Of this sample, 96 per cent. sprouted on trial.

In one acre there is 43,472 square feet, or 173,889 six-inch square blocks, and 6,259,968 square inches. Supposing one turnip should grow on each six-inch square block, seven ounces will put one seed on each, and leave nearly 14,900, or one seed to every three square feet, to scatter promiscuously or be lost. On this same calculation, half a bushel of millet will place 1.19 seed to every square inch, or 180 to the square foot. Is that thick enough? Plenty for hay, and half too much if sown for seed.

This brings me to your half bushel branching buckwheat. Taking 173,889 six inch square blocks in an acre, and 967,200 seed in a bushel, as a basis, one peck gives 241,800, or 67,941 more than one to each block—about  $1\frac{3}{8}$  to every six-inch square, or  $5\frac{1}{2}$  seeds to each square foot. With only four, or even ten per cent. of worthless seed, I would like to see it spread itself. I have come—since counting seed—to the conclusion that seven ounces of turnip seed equals one-half bushel millet for grass, and one-fourth to one-third for seed; and one peck of buckwheat is an abundance for an acre. Don't we waste as much seed generally as is necessary to plant our farms? In experimenting with seed, I tried turnip seven years old, and find that over ninety per cent. came up well and thrifty.



## WHEN TO HARVEST WHEAT.

It is a much discussed question, and yet unsettled—when is the proper time to harvest wheat? Only analysis and experiment can determine the matter. We have somewhere seen the following analysis and experiments, but do not remember the author, yet we are satisfied they are correct and reliable; and we always believed it best to harvest wheat early, as it gives better grain and saves from waste in shelling:

In an experiment made for the express purpose of throwing light upon this subject, three plats of wheat of equal extent, cut at different stages of ripeness, yielded of grain, as follows:

Cut twenty days before it was ripe, 166 lbs.; cut ten days before it was ripe, 220 lbs.; cut when fully ripe, 209 lbs.

From this it will be seen that that which was cut ten days before complete ripeness, gave eleven lbs., or five per cent. more grain than the equal plat cut at full maturity. Allowing a field to yield at the rate of twenty bushels of grain per acre, this would be equivalent to a saving of one bushel per acre in the simple act of cutting ten days earlier. But not only is the yield increased by this early harvesting; the percentage of flour, bran, etc., is also affected by the difference in time of harvesting. The following exhibits the difference in flour, bran, and waste from equal quantities of wheat cut at different times:

Twenty days before ripe, flour, 74.7; bran, etc., 25.3; ten days before ripe, flour, 78.1; bran, etc., 20.9; when fully ripe, flour 72.2; bran, etc., 27.8.

Here the difference is in favor of both the early cuttings, being as much as 9 per cent. between that cut at full maturity and that cut 10 days before. This, in a crop of 20 bushels per acre, would be a saving of 1 4-5 bushels. Still another benefit growing out of early harvesting is found in the different portions of gluten and water contained in the flour. The more gluten and the less water it contains, other things being equal, the more valuable it is. In the above experiment, the different cuttings contained these constituents in the following proportions:

That which was cut

	Water.	Per cent. Gluten.
20 days before ripening.....	15.7	9.3
10 days before ripening.....	15.5	9.9
When fully ripe.....	15.9	9.6

Here, as in the above instances, the advantages are in favor of that cut before ripening—even that cut twenty days before mature ripeness, containing less water than that cut when quite ripe. This experiment, which has been confirmed by numerous

similar ones, proves the beneficial effect of harvesting our grain from one to two weeks before it reaches complete ripeness. This is deserving the attention of all our farmers. D. S. C.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A FARMER?—The following extract we take from a very interesting address delivered by Major Wm. J. Sykes, at Brownsville, Tenn., in 1874:

To be a perfect farmer a man should combine reading, observation and practice. A man may work in the fields all his life and be a poor farmer. We should gain knowledge by reading and study, and also by what we see around us, and then this knowledge must be put into practice. Our views, if they will not stand the test of actual experiments, are worthless. All sound theory is based upon practice, and all sensible practice is the result of well-grounded information, whether learned by our own observation or from the experience of others. That theory which will not stand the test of experience is worthless, and that practice which is not based upon sound theory is equally worthless.

BOTTLING CIDER.—A writer in the *New England Farmer* gives this advice to bottle cider that will keep sweet and fine for years, and its excellence is endorsed by the editor:—"Leach and filter the cider through pure sand, after it has worked and fermented and before it has soured. Put no alcohol or other substances with it. Be sure that the vessels you put it in are perfectly clean and sweet. After it is leached or filtered, put it in barrels or casks filled, leaving no room for air; bung them tight and keep it where it won't freeze till February or March, then put it into champagne bottles filled, drive the corks and wire them. It should be done in a cellar or room that is comfortable to work in. The best cider is late made, or made when it is as cold as can be and not freeze."

TRANSPLANTING TREES.—Trees of all kinds can be transplanted in autumn as soon as they are done growing, indicated by the change in the leaf, up to hard freezing. The earlier this is attended to, especially with large trees, the more certainly are they to grow. By transplanting early the roots have time before the season closes of settling well in their new homes and taking a good hold, which will sustain them through the winter, prepared to take an early start in the spring.—*Ger. Telegraph.*

There are over 2,700 varieties of apples known by 1,800 names; 2,200 of pears, 200 of cherries, 150 of plums, 300 of our native grapes, 50 of currants, 80 of raspberries, and 30 of blackberries, according to a counting up of somebody.

## HORTICULTURAL.

### HYDRANGEAS.

The family of hydrangeas belong chiefly to Asia and America, and have long been celebrated for their beauty. They are peculiar in having large barren flowers, and these it is which makes the flower we admire; the fertile flowers, which produce seed, are small and insignificant, and are generally scattered through among the large male ones. The common garden Hydrangea, the *H. hortensis* or *Hortensia*, is almost wholly made up of these large barren flowers; the smaller and fertile ones are but very few, which is destined to great popularity. The male flowers are very numerous, and the spikes very large; and even small plants bloom profusely. It has been long enough in the country for many plants to become of considerable size, and these are so covered by flowers, that it is believed no plant can compete with them in the abundance carried. The leaves are small in comparison with the enormous heads of flowers—not much larger in fact than the leaves of the well-known *Wiegela rosea*, which they somewhat resemble, and almost hidden by the barren ones. Indeed they seldom, if ever, mature in this country.

We have native two kinds, that are often found in cultivation. One is the oak-leaved, which is found wild in the South, and yet is quite hardy; the other the shrubby or *Hydrangea arborescens*. The former, however, grows nearly as tall and is by far the most interesting, by its large grey oak-like leaves. The large spikes of greenish white flowers which appear in June and July also add to the interest. Of late a kind has been introduced from Japan, called *Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora*. This and the American Hydrangeas are hardly enough to endure our winters without covering, but the *Hortensia* requires a light protection, or the branches get killed, though the roots get killed, and when this happens there are no flowers, as like the blackberry and raspberry, the blossom comes from the wood of last year. Many take them up and keep them in boxes of earth or cellars; but if leaves, or even earth, be put over the wood, it will live out in the open air, and flower well the next season.

### DAPHNE INDICA.

In old times one of the commonest plants in windows and little greenhouses, was the sweet scented *Daphne indica*; but of late years it has almost disappeared from culture, and chiefly from

too much care being given to it. It is a nearly hardy plant, and does not like to be nursed up in close quarters, and this it is perhaps that has been against its success in modern hands. In his younger days, the writer of this knew a good farmer's wife in the Northern part of the State who had one growing in an old bucket with a hole bored in the bottom to let the water escape, which was several feet high. This was kept in a little house which was built over a spring, and in which it thrived amazingly. There were oranges and lemons, oleanders and *Pittosporums* in the same little room, and perhaps some things not remembered. It was indeed no more than a room with a window on the south side. There was no fire, the warmth of the spring water just keeping out the frost. The moist cool atmosphere was what probably suited the plant so well. In early spring, when in blossom, it was brought to the house, and charmed everybody by its delightful fragrance.

This is probably what it wants to succeed well—the atmosphere which does not necessitate giving it much water—for in most cases that it dies, it seems to do so at the root first, by the rotting of the roots from the souring of the soil. Even under the best of conditions, the pots should be well drained so as to let the water pass rapidly through.

### THE TULIP TREE.

It is a matter of surprise that so beautiful a tree as the *Liriodendron* or tulip tree is so seldom seen in our avenues and gardens. In Europe it is highly prized, and in the parks of the wealthy, an avenue of *Liriodendrons* is regarded as one of the richest embellishments. It grows rather large for a street tree, except where the streets are wide, and there is room for the trunks in time to develop. But it has the rare merit of being entirely free from disease, and, so far as we know, no insect attacks it. The leaves have a clean, glossy look, and the tree is admired by every one.

Perhaps one reason for its scarcity in culture, is that few nurserymen keep it, and this may be from an impression that it is difficult to transplant. It is difficult when it grows for years in the place where the seeds sprout, but if it has been several times transplanted when young, as all good nursery trees should be, they do as well as the average of trees. The fault with a large amount of our planting is that the trees have not been properly dug up after they have been grown, or left to grow.

Another point in successful tulip trees, is to prune away a portion of the branches at transplanting. The writer of this paragraph had a



good opportunity to note the value of this advice last spring. A friend of his set out half a dozen tulip trees last spring. As there was a dispute about the advantages of pruning, it was decided to cut the half back severely, and let the rest be. This fall the cut back trees are much the finest. They pushed out into a fine vigorous growth and had fine healthy leaves. The others lived—that is, they pushed out into leaves, but made but an inch or so of growth. They will, no doubt, do well next year, but there is no question but that the pruned trees will keep ahead of them.

### TARTARIAN HONEYSUCKLES.

Honeysuckles are not all climbers or vines. There is a class that grow as bushes, and are known as upright honeysuckles. Some of these have been cultivated for many years, and are found in many old gardens, and are among the most beautiful things grown; but the nurserymen tell us that the rage for novelties is so great that an upright honeysuckle is very rarely asked for.

There are many kinds, all with various degrees of merit, but for beauty of flower and fruit, none excel the Tartarian.

There are several varieties. There are some with flowers nearly white, and others of deep rose. These appear in June. They are not large, but are in such great numbers, that a small bush looks like a bunch of blossoms. In July and August the bushes are covered with berries, and here also we find many varieties. The best known are the crimson berried and the amber berried kinds. Some seasons there are more berries than at others. This year there is nothing more beautiful than a good bush of the Tartarian upright honeysuckle. Another point in their favor is that the nurserymen, having had so little demand for them for some years, sell them cheap, if they have not got quite out of heart and thrown them entirely away. If so, it is to be regretted, for it is quite certain there is nothing more beautiful in the whole range of hardy shrubs.

### Improving the Black Walnut.

To the writer's taste, the Black Walnut is, at least the equal of the English Walnut or *Madiera* nut, but its thick, hard shell is against its general use. The quantity of the foreign article used in this country is very heavy, as we are told by those in the trade, and it is worth securing, if our Black Walnut could be brought to do us that service. It is said that in our State of Maryland, trees are

often found with comparatively thin shelled fruit, and it is well worth while trying whether these might not be still further improved, if not by a natural, at least by artificial selection. If attention was once directed to the value of thin shelled kinds, they would no doubt be sought for and discovered among wild trees. It would be thought, no doubt, too slow a business to try by successive sowings, what could be done in this way, though it is just possible that seedlings could be grafted on bearing trees, as is done with apples and pears, and in this way several successive generations might be fruited in say ten years.

The walnut presents attractions independently of its fruit, in its valuable timber. A young person who would plant a grove of them would have a nice little fortune in the timber in old age; that is if he had the heart to cut them down; for it is a singular fact that an old tree is much more sacred to the eye of age than in the sight of youth. There is a peculiar beauty too about a large Black Walnut tree that always seems like an appeal for preservation to any person of æsthetic tastes. For some reason not clear, a Black Walnut, as we look up among its branches, appears much more lofty than it really is. There are, indeed, few trees which look so grand and noble as this.

It deserves to be improved for its nuts alone, but for its utility and beauty as well, it deserves an extensive planting.

### Tobacco Crop in the Connecticut Valley.

*To the Editors of the Maryland Farmer.*

The area planted to tobacco in the Connecticut Valley the present season is considerable less than the average for the ten years last past, yet the crop has been more thoroughly cultivated and received greater care in harvesting than formerly.

A large proportion of the growers have reached the conclusion that it is more profitable to put the manure and labor on less ground, and produce a crop of better quality.

Success has thus far crowned their efforts, the crop, as a general rule, having made a quick luxuriant growth, and an early and perfect maturity.

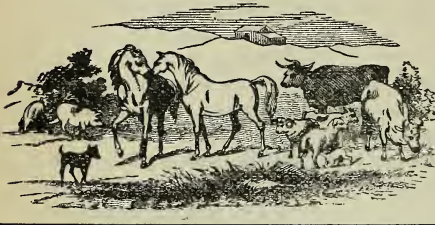
With favorable weather for curing, the crop must be better for cigar wrappers than any that has been grown for several years.

S. P. WARNER, *Sunderland, Mass.*

THE "GRANGE."—Chas. E. Barney, in an address on the "True aims and objects of the Order," says:—"The solid corner stone of our Order must be mutual trust, mutual sympathy and mutual helpfulness. We must know each other better and trust each other more."



## Live Stock Register.



### ARAB MAXIMS.

The following maxims, applied by the Arabians to the horse, contain a few hints worth knowing :

Whoso raiseth and traineth a horse for the Lord is counted in the number of those who give alms day and night, in private as well as public. All his sins will be forgiven him, and never will any fear come over him and dishonor his heart.

Let your colt be domesticated and live with you from his tenderest age, and when a horse he will be simple, docile, faithful and inured to hardship and fatigue.

If you have your horse to serve you on the day of trial, if you desire him to become a horse of truth, make him sober, accustomed to hard work and inaccessible to fear.

Do not beat your horses, nor speak to them in a loud tone of voice ; do not be angry with them, but kindly reprove their faults ; they will do better thereafter, for they understand the language of man and its meaning.

If you have a long day's journey before you, spare your horse at the start ; let him frequently walk, to recover his wind. Continue this until he has sweated and dried three times, and you may ask of him whatever you please ; he will not leave you in difficulty.

Use your horse as you do your leathern bottle ; if you open it gently and gradually, you can easily control the water therein, but if you open it suddenly, the water escapes at once and nothing remains to quench your thirst.

Never let your horse run up or down hill, if you can avoid it. On the contrary, slacken your pace. Which do you prefer, was asked of a horse, ascent or descent ? A curse be on their point of meeting ! was the answer.

Make your horse work and work again. Inaction and fat are the great peril of a horse, and the main cause of all his vices and diseases.

Observe your horse when he is drinking at a brook. If in bringing down his head he remains square, without bending his limbs, he possesses

sterling qualities, and all parts of his body are built symmetrically.

Four things he must have broad—front, chest, loins and limbs ; four things long—neck, breast, fore-arm and croup ; and four things short—pasterns, back, ears and tail.—*Turf, Field and Farm.*

### Milk Fever in Cows.

The following by Prof. Law, of Cornell University, N. Y., upon the prevention and cure of milk fever in cows, will be read with interest since the disease has prevailed to a considerable extent among fat cows which have calved late :

This disease is essentially connected with plethora of excessive formation and richness of blood. Its victims are mainly the cows that lay on flesh rapidly, or those that give an abundance of rich milk. A strong, vigorous digestion, and great powers of assimilation, therefore, properties which render their possession so valuable for feeding or dairy purposes, are precisely those which predispose them to this destructive complaint. Let a cow of this stamp calve early in June, on your pastures of rich and juicy clover, exposed to the great heats of American summer, and with little loss of blood in the process, and she is but too likely to prove a doomed animal. The supply of blood to the womb necessary for the support of the embryo calf is suddenly arrested and thrown back on the system at large : it has not yet become diverted to the udder so as to establish a precarious secretion of milk ; the richness and plasticity of the blood supplied to the nervous centres are incompatible with due exercise of their functions, and the nervous system already exhausted by the strain made upon it during parturition, and sympathetically depressed by the loaded condition of the digestive and circulatory system, is suddenly prostrated, and too often beyond recovery. The suppression of the secretions, alike of the bowels, kidneys, skin and udder, rapidly aggravate the already unhealthy state of the blood, and death often results from apoplexy, or serious effusion on the brain.

*Prevention.*—Then the main causes of the disease can be, to a great extent, obviated. It is not desirable to seek to change the tendency of the animal to the production of beef or milk. But, without prejudice to these causes, we can check the production of blood at the time of calving, and even reduce the already existing state of plethora. We can keep calving cows in a yard for a week or fortnight before the expiring of gestation ; we can restrict their diet to a half or a fourth of what they would consume if left in the pastures ; we can see that the bowels are always kept acting freely, either by reason of the nature of the food or by giving two or three ounces of sulphate of soda in their daily food ; we can induce a considerable depletion from the circulatory system by giving a dose of physic, (one pound to two pounds of Epsom salts, according to the size of animal,) to act at the time of parturition or immediately afterward ; we can rub the udder and draw the teats, so as to insure an early and free secretion of milk ; we can keep on a very restrictive and laxative diet for the

first week after calving. With sufficient care, the disease may be almost entirely prevented.

**Curative Treatment.**—This is so uncertain in its results, that it is folly to neglect any measure of prevention. Strong purgatives, stimulants, ice-bags on the head, rubbing the udder, drawing the teats, copious warm injections, and damp sheets laid over the body and covered with dry ones, or tepid sponging on the surface, may all be employed, and in slight cases will prove successful. In the earliest stages, while the animal is still able to stand, and the pulse is full and strong, bleeding of the jugular may ward off the severity of the attack; later it will only increase it. In cases attended by little fever, half-dram doses of nux vomica, morning and evening, are of great value.

### Fattening Hogs.

Men who grow hogs largely for the market are no doubt well acquainted with their business, and understand all its economical points; but among the readers of the *Journal* there are also a great many small farmers, who will be glad of suggestions upon this subject.

In fattening hogs, early feeding is an item of very great importance. And it is right here that too many farmers fail. They do not begin to feed their hogs early enough in the season. All through the warm weather of early autumn they feed pumpkins and some soft corn, small potatoes and other light food, and do not begin to feed heavily until cold weather sets in. It is a much better way to commence feeding meal, or abundance of soft corn, as soon as the 1st of October. One bushel of meal fed when the weather is mild, will probably produce double the pork as the same quantity of grain fed during the winter. In very cold weather, a large part of the food is used to keep up the animal heat, and only a little of it can be spared for the production of meat.

Liberal feeding is also one of the indispensable requisites to success in fattening hogs. And here a great many farmers make a serious mistake. They wonder why their hogs do not take on flesh more rapidly, when their only trouble is due to the fact that the animals have only a little more food than enough to keep them alive. There is no surplus for the production of fat. If all the food is consumed by the natural waste of the system, it is easy to see that no increase in the amount of flesh can be made. In order to fatten hogs rapidly, they should have nutritious food in as large quantities as they will eat and digest, with some coarse food to keep them healthy. The attempt to fatten hogs on short rations is utterly useless. The man who makes any such experiment will find the truth of the proverb, "from nothing nothing comes."

In order to have the best success in fattening

hogs, it is also necessary to provide them with warm, dry pens. They will live in cold pens and muddy yards, but they will not fatten readily, and they require a great deal more food than if provided with comfortable quarters. Although the hog will sometimes wallow in the mire, he appreciates a warm, clean nest as well as any other animal. There is always a very close relation between the comfort of animals and the profits of their owners, and what conduces to the one is likely to increase the other.—*Live Stock Journal*.

### Useful Recipes.

**Bots.**—Mr. Brightwell, in the *Southern Cultivator*, gives the following:

Whenever your horse is sick, and you are in doubt about the nature of his disease, give him a teaspoon level full of calomel. If bots are the cause of the trouble, your horse will be relieved immediately; and, if your horse is suffering from any other complaint, the calomel will be advantageous to him. I have tried the calomel often, and have never known it to fail to give immediate relief. The best way of administering, is in sweet oil and warm water, or rolled in wheat dough.

**Another.**—Have a box or trough in your horse lot or pasture, and keep salt in it all the time, so that horses or mules may get plenty of it whenever they want it, and you need not fear bots or grubs. Supplied freely with salt they are less liable to colic. This does not kill the bots already in the stomach of the animal, but kills the knits or young bots; and they never mature where a horse has free access to a plenty of salt.

**TO CURE A STIFLE.**—Take the white of an egg and pulverized alum, and make a paste of them. Rub the joint well, and heat it with a hot iron held near it. I have seen it tried in several cases with perfect success. Two applications a day until there is a decided improvement. I saw one case cured that had been neglected over a week, as the owner did not know what the cause of the lameness was.—*Cor. Southern Cultivator*.

**LINIMENT FOR ANIMALS.**—An excellent liniment for wounds, bruises, sprains and swellings, may be made as follows: A pint of good vinegar, a pint of soft soap, and a handful of salt, and a tablespoonful of saltpetre. Mix thoroughly and bottle for use. This is very efficacious, and is cheaply and easily prepared.

**CURE FOR CAT CATCHING CHICKENS.**—When a cat is seen to catch chickens, tie one around her neck, and make her wear it for two or three days. Fasten it securely, for she will make incredible efforts to get rid of it. Be firm for that time, and the cat is cured. She will never again desire to touch a bird.

**REMEDY FOR CHICKEN CHOLERA.**—Two ounces each of red pepper, alum, rosin, and flour of sulphur, and put in their food in proportion of one teaspoonful to three pints of scalded meal.



THE  
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Specimen Copies.—Parties writing for specimen copies of the MARYLAND FARMER will please enclose a three cent stamp, as we are compelled to prepay postage in accordance with the new law. There are a large number sent out, which makes it a considerable item of expense.

County Agricultural Fairs for 1875.

It is gratifying to us, and it must also be to the farming community, to know that each and all of the County Agricultural and Mechanical Associations in Maryland, the present year, have been great successes. It manifestly appears that the whole people are becoming interested in these annual meetings of the farmers in their respective counties, and a live attempt is being made to advance the cause of agriculture and its help-mate—agricultural mechanics. We have no doubt that this universal and healthy movement is partly, if not chiefly, owing to the popular institution of the Grangers—truly the Patrons of Husbandry.

Allegany county led off early in October, and agreeably disappointed the managers and exhibitors by its unqualified success, beyond the most sanguine expectations. Kent county had, however, held a successful meeting during the last days of September.

Dorchester county had a fine meeting at Cambridge on the 6th, 7th and 8th of October.

Montgomery held on the 8th, 9th and 10th of October, one of the best Fairs it has ever held, and all have heretofore been creditable to this old established association.

Carroll, Harford and Frederick all held their meetings at the same time, the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th of October, and yet adjoining counties, the attendance at each was greatly on the increase over past years, and the exhibitors correspondingly excelling previous years. That of Frederick was remarkable, for various reasons we have not the space at this moment to spare in detailing. It has always been accorded the meed of praise for its agricultural fairs, and this year we hear old Frederick beat itself.

Somerset held a very satisfactory meeting of its farmers, and made a fine exhibit of its stock, agricultural products, household manufactures, &c.

It is a little remarkable that all these Fairs are called agricultural and mechanical associations, yet in the voluminous reports that appear in the daily papers, little or no mention is made of the agricultural machinery, which almost in every case makes a strong feature in the exhibition. It seems to us that this department is too much neglected, both by the different associations and the reporters for the papers, especially as it is a great means of agricultural success. The skill of the mechanic supplies manual labor to a great extent, and without the genius of our mechanical inventors, agriculture would languish and perish, because, at the present time, manual labor, as of old, could not supply the needs of husbandry. Genius in making agri-



cultural machinery, supplies the daily increasing demand for human hands.

It would have given us pleasure to have been personally present at all these very encouraging county exhibitions, but the sickness of one of our staff, and the present calls of another, who devotes every spare moment to discover a mode of heading off the depredations of the potato bugs, for the public good, and several of the associations holding their meetings the same days, we were necessarily obliged to be absent from some, and had, owing to a previous engagement to be absent from Westminster and Frederick, to be at the Harford Fair. We trust another year to be able to be represented at each one as it occurs in the several counties.

We congratulate ourselves upon the appreciation of the *Maryland Farmer*, which it seems to have been honored with by several of these associations, in given it as a reward for meritorious objects, in so many instances. We feel flattered at the compliment, and return our thanks, promising in the future to endeavor more fully to deserve this mark of approbation by our fellow farmers throughout the State.

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### Maryland Poultry Association.

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The Annual Exhibition of this Association is to be held next January from the 3d to the 7th, in this city. From present indications there will be a large collection of pure bred poultry, embracing nearly, if not all, the well known breeds. The pigeon department promises to be an unusually interesting feature, as there will be on exhibition a large number of Homing Antwerps—trained flyers—some of them being birds that have made good time in distances of over 100 miles. There will be, during the Exhibition, a pigeon race from Washington, and the wining bird will be on exhibition, &c. There will also be a display of minor pets, including several varieties of rabbits, guinea pigs, parrots, singing birds, &c., and also specimens of taxidermy. The Buffalo, N. Y., and Boston, Mass., Societies will hold no Exhibition the coming season, and there will consequently be many of the prominent breeders in those sections represented. The Secretary already has numerous applications for premium lists for the different States and several from Canada. It is expected that *artificial* incubation with the latest improved incubators will be in full operation during the show.

Gen. N. B. Forrest has 530 acres of land under cultivation near Glencoe Station, Shelby county, Miss., 430 of which are in cotton.

### Agricultural Fairs.

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The season for these galy days to the farmers and their families has about closed for this year.—On these matters the *American Stock Journal* holds the following sensible reflections :

"In the old days of the Roman Republic, and afterward of the Roman Empire, the amphitheatres and the Coliseum were points at which eighty thousands Romans assembled to express by their presence the intellectual and moral state of the country. In the Middle Ages, throughout the most civilized countries of Europe, there were periodical tournaments in which armed men on horseback sought to slaughter each other to gratify the morbid curiosity of the gathered multitude. Our age is distinguished by another kind of assemblages—Industrial and Agricultural Fairs.—Here our people assemble by the tens of thousands, not to look on the slaughter of man and beast, but to look on the great spectacle which modern society presents of the products of Agriculture, Stock Raising, Art and Manufacture, every one of which has a tendency to administer to the wants and happiness of the whole people."

FAIRS.—The *York Pennsylvanian* says of fairs in Pennsylvania and Maryland that "the *Bucks county* fair, which closed at Doylestown on Saturday, was highly successful in every respect. The receipts exceeded \$10,000."

And of the fair at *Frederick*, it says : "Although the crowd at the fair has always been large, one of the officers informed us on Wednesday that the receipts of that day and Tuesday far exceeded those of any previous year on the same days. There was at least 10,000 persons in attendance at the fair on Wednesday, and probably 20,000 on Thursday."

LARGE GRAPES.—A bunch of grapes weighing twenty-six and a quarter pounds was shown recently at the great fruit show at Edinburgh, Scotland, by Mr. Carror, gardener of Esk Bank. Another, over twenty-five pounds, was shown by Mr. Jardine, gardener at Arkleton, Dumfries. These are believed to be the largest bunches of grapes ever grown in Britain, and probably the largest ever grown.

CORRECTION.—Inadvertently, a notice from one of the city papers of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Agricultural College, is placed in another page of this paper, containing an error, in stating that Dr. Henkle presided, when the fact is, Col. Earle presided, Dr. H. not being a member of the Board.

*Reported for the Maryland Farmer.*

### Lecture at the Agricultural College.

#### COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS.

Dr. Tonry, Professor of Chemistry at the Maryland Institute, delivered a public lecture at the State Agricultural College, on the evening of 21st of October, on the subject of Commercial Fertilizers. It was listened to with much interest by an audience composed of Professors and Students of the College, and visitors from the neighborhood. The Board of Trustees of the College was represented by Mr. Charles B. Calvert.

It is impossible, writing from memory two days after hearing the lecture, to give such a sketch as would at all do it justice, and it is to be regretted that so intelligent and satisfactory a showing of this important subject by one familiar with it by personal contact and observation, cannot be published in full for the use of the farmers of the State.

Under the topic of the crude material of which the commercial fertilizers are manufactured, all the so-called phosphate guanos were noticed—Sombrero, Nevassa and the rest, with the famous South Carolina deposits, and their composition as varying from or agreeing with that of true bone-phosphate. The topic was made more interesting by photographic illustrations thrown upon the wall by the magic lantern, given views of the several islands whence the phosphates are obtained, the manner of working the deposits, &c. Some wonderful animals and reptiles, or something of both, half horse and half alligator, huge and hideous, were shown; which the imagination of the artist had conjured from suggestions furnished by great fossil bones and vertebræ taken from the Charleston beds.

The manufacturers, the Professor says, are fond of calling all these articles from the islands, guanoes, that being a popular term with farmers, but he protests that they are in no sense such; an essential of a true guano being the organic elements, or those which will burn away in the application of heat, and from which is generated the carbonate of ammonia that gives it its special value.

The next topic of the lecture was the methods and processes of manufacture, embracing the crushing and grinding of the rock, the treatment with acid, the handling, mixing, &c.

Under this head there were interesting exhibitions with the lantern of the costly and powerful mills, used to crush the crude material, and the huge pans with machinery for mixing thoroughly the powdered rock with the acid. Great importance is attached to the fineness of the grinding, and to bringing the acid into most intimate mixture with the powder. It is thought important too

that the acid should not be applied to the powdered material until this has been moistened well with water, as otherwise it is liable to form lumps coated with sulphate of lime, which interfere with complete action.

The materials used to supply the 3 per cent. of ammonia, which many of the fertilizers claim to have, were also noticed. Peruvian Guano is used, but it is too costly to enter largely into the manufacture. Nitrate of Soda is used, being capable, under certain conditions, of forming the required ammonia, but, by no means, sure to do so, and is condemned for this reason. Fish, king crabs, sugar house refuse, and various other substances were noticed.

The use of common salt and land plaster as ingredients of these fertilizers was spoken of as only a method of selling these articles at the rate of forty and fifty dollars a ton. It may be suggested here that the use of plaster in this way, said to be common, may account, in a measure, for the high price of this valuable, and, in past years, cheap fertilizer.

The most directly interesting portion of the lecture was that showing what should constitute a thoroughly good fertilizer, the per centage of the several elements, and the parts they play in the growth of parts. The value of potash was dwelt upon, and the double office it performs in dissolving the silica, so necessary for hardening the straw of grains, and in filling the starch cells. It is the latter which makes it so valuable for increasing the quantity and improving the quality of the potato crop.

We shall not undertake to repeat the Professor's instructions for reading correctly a published analysis of a fertilizer, not trusting the accuracy of our memory, but it indicated plainly that farmers generally are not so well posted as they should be on a matter of much importance to them. That such analysis too are not to be implicitly relied on when coming from the highest chemical authority, was shown in the statement that when a chemist is called on by the manufacturer to testify to the presence in due quantity of certain elements, it is not his duty to go beyond that and take account of others which may be useless or hurtful.

Enough has been given to show the scope of the lecture, and this is all we could hope to do. It treated a subject of vital interest in the farming of the present day, and afforded such useful information as should be brought home to all who have to do with profitable cropping and successful land improvement.

Plow deep for good continuous crops.



### Dishonest Tree Venders.

Farmers and fruit growers are sometimes swindled by travelling venders of nursery trees; but this can be avoided, generally, by purchasing only of home nurseries, or of well-known growers. On this subject the *Country Gentleman* makes the following remarks:

"Every good bank has its counterfeits, and every honorable trade is liable to have dishonest imitators. We have just received a circular, purporting to be issued by a horticultural society, warning the community against the same class of imposters in selling trees, as we had occasion to notice a year ago. By this circular it appears that certain men, with strong self-recommendations, and with samples of fruit in glass jars which they never grew, and some of which are of wax, obtain many orders from persons who do not read agricultural publications, and who are easily imposed on. The trees are bought by those men where they can be had cheapest, and may be diseased and defective in growth, or may be good and thrifty, but of worthless or spurious varieties. The former may be detected at sight; the latter when the trees bear. But the trees are delivered and paid for before the packages are opened, (the importance of not exposing them to the air being urged), so that the purchasers, even if they know by inspection the difference between good and bad trees, never see them until the bill is settled. It appears that among other things offered for sale, is the same fictitious "strawberry tree" of which we gave some notice last year.

The frequency with which such impositions are attempted on the ignorant, has led some agricultural journals mistakenly to denounce all tree venders, not remembering that other trades have their counterfeits, and that the very existence of counterfeits shows that there are genuine banks.

Those who purchase trees to be delivered by dealers, should satisfy themselves on a few points: 1. That the nursery represented by them is one of established reputation. 2. That the dealer or agent makes no false claim, and that he has full credentials from his employer, of recent date. 3. If they have known him to deliver good and satisfactory trees in the same neighborhood in years before, they will have an additional guarantee. 4. Every neighborhood should have at least one intelligent, reading and practical fruit cultivator, who knows nurserymen and the appearance of good trees; and if his assistance can be had, all the better."

Plow in the autumn to kill weeds and insects.

### Value of Manures from Different Animals.

The excrements of the different kinds of farm stock vary widely in value, as the manure from neat stock contains the least nitrogen and more water than that of any other stock. The more nitrogen contained in manure the more rapid its decomposition; hence, it is sooner absorbed as plant food. Horse manure is richer in nitrogen than that of neat cattle and contains less water, consequently it decomposes more rapidly, and its fertilizing elements are sooner taken up by vegetation. It acts immediately, hence its great value for all quick-growing crops.

The value of manure made from swine varies more than that of any other stock. If swine are fed on slops and potatoes and apples, the manure is of little value compared with that of those fed on grain, or from the offal from slaughter-houses.

The excrements from sheep contain the most nitrogen. I think manure made from this stock worth nearly twice as much per cord as that made from cows.

An English farmer experimenting with different kinds of manure made from cows, horses, sheep and swine, applied to them on equal plots of land of nearly the same state of fertility and sowed the field with barley, sowing also one plot of same size without any fertilizer, with the following results:

	lbs.
Plot without fertilizer.....	150
Plot with manure from cows.....	167
Plot with manure from horses.....	226
Plot with manure from swine.....	233
Plot with manure from sheep.....	244

He had also analyzed the excrements of the above-named stock produced from winter feed, 100 pounds of the droppings of cows contained 3 pounds of nitrogen, the same amount from horses, 5 pounds; swine, 6 pounds; sheep, 7 pounds; of mineral substance—cows,  $2\frac{1}{4}$ ; horses, 30 pounds; swine, 30 pounds; sheep, 60 pounds. Of potash and soda—cows, 1 pound; horses, 3 pounds; swine, 5 pounds; sheep, 3 pounds. Soluble phosphoric acid, cows,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  pounds; horses,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; swine,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; sheep, 6 pounds. Would advise to mix the different kinds of manure, forking them over occasionally to prevent them from burning.—*Exchange.*

The first graduate of a farmers' college in the West is now a thriving street car driver in Chicago. He can tell a pumpkin from an onion with his eyes shut, by simply feeling the vegetables. If that is the best he could do after college, what would he have done without it?

## Great Floral Show.

From the *Ohio Farmer* we gather the following:

The greatest display of flowers and floral ornaments ever witnessed in Ohio, was made at the Cincinnati Exposition on Friday, September 24th, when premiums amounting in the aggregate to \$1,175 were to be awarded to professional florists as follows:

For the best general display of floral work and cut flowers; first premium \$400; second \$150; third \$50.

For the best new design in floral work, \$100; second \$50.

For the best specimen of pendant work, not less than three pieces, \$100; second \$50.

For the best filled flat basket, not less than 4 ft. by 2 ft., \$100; second \$25.

For the best display of the greatest number of varieties of cut flowers, not less than twelve of each variety, \$100; second \$50.

The money was subscribed by eight business firms and the principal hotels of the city, several of which gave \$100 each, and one \$150.

J. Vick, Jr., of Rochester, N. Y., obtained the first premium, \$100 for flowers of that class. The money was appropriated by Mr. Vick to the expense of an extra concert to be given by the band at the Exposition the next day.

The grand premium of \$400 was awarded to T. Knott & Son, florists, of Cincinnati. The second premium in this class, \$150, was given to A. Sunderbrook, of Cincinnati, who also had a large and fine display. He also took the premium for best new design, \$100.

The premium of \$100 for best pendant work was given to E. B. Critchell, Cincinnati, for chandeliers, baskets and other handsome ornaments. J. S. Cook was second in this class, and also obtained the first premium on large basket of flowers, \$100.

The peppermint crop of Wayne county will reach half a million this year. Now bring on your belly-ache.—*Chicago Times*.

Here is a suggestion for some of our farmers; there is a good deal of land, moist and rich, along our creeks and branches, well adapted to the growing of mints, and it is a profitable business.

LAND SALES.—We learn that Dr. C. M. Jones, of St. Inigoes district, in St. Mary's county, Md., has sold 100 acres of land in that district for \$2,000 cash, to R. W. W. Wood, Esq., of Washington city, D. C., and also to same gentleman another 100 acres with improvements, for \$5,000 cash.

## About Winter Wheat.

The following is from the *Maine Farmer*; it gives a different report than is experienced generally in this region, and may be worth the attention of farmers:

I enclose a sample of Michigan white winter wheat, of the bald variety, from which I raised 23½ bushels on ¾ of an acre, on land that had not been plowed for 16 years. It had been top-dressed about every third year, and produced a bountiful supply of hay and some seasons two crops. I sowed my wheat Aug. 28, 1874, and cultivated it in 2½ inches deep. I harvested it July 29th, 1875. After I plowed it last season, I put on before harrowing 25 loads stable manure. I think our farmers ought to raise more winter wheat. [The specimen is very plump and nice.—ED.] C. BUTMAN, *Plymouth*.

## Large Steers.

Mr. Edmund Clement, of Levant, Maine, has a yoke of steer calves, which, when 6½ months old, girted 5 feet each, and whose joint weight was 1,300 lbs. They are a matched pair and well broken. Who in the State can do better?

At the Lynchburg, Va., Fair, last month, was shown a pair of short-horn two year old twin steers, very handsome and exactly alike in looks, well broken and handy, that weighed over 1,000 pounds each.

There was another pair of twin steers, Devons, 2 years old, very handsome, tractable and smart; which stood up and walked like young horses, but not quite so heavy as the short-horns, but as much alike in appearance. D. S. C.

GOOD YIELD OF WHEAT.—What shall we say of small average yield of wheat in too many States—only 9 to 13 bushel to the acre—in comparison with the following: The *Canada Farmer* says that last fall, Mr. Oliver, of Elm Bank, Toronto Township, bought enough *Clawson* wheat to seed two and one quarter acres. It yielded 110 bushels, and sold at \$2.75 per bushel for seed, being at the rate of \$140.55 per acre.

SNAKE BITE.—A physician of Oregon says:—"Take the yolk of a good egg, put in a teacup, and stir in as much salt as will make it thick enough not to run off, and spread a plaster and apply to the wound. Do this when bitten or stung, and I will assure your life for a sixpence. I have tried this remedy in a number of cases, and have never known it to fail to cure a rattlesnake bite, or the sting of a spider," which is "important if true."



(The remarkable productiveness of corn in France, used green for fodder, and the process for preserving it in pits or trenches in the ground in that country, have excited so much attention and comment in the agricultural press of our country, that we give below a translation direct from the French, of the parties who are raising the fodder and pitting it; and also the comment of the French editor, who publishes the communication, and remarks by the translator, reducing to terms and figures with which our readers are familiar, the terms and statements of the original.)—*Eds. Md. Far.*

*Translated from the French for the Maryland Farmer.*

### MAIZE FODDER IN SOLOGNE.

*To the Editor of the Journal d'Agriculture.*

1. I send you, according to your request, a tin box containing some fodder pitted three months ago, which my cattle are now eating.

2. Two stems of maize from standing corn, such as my cattle eat up to this month, cut.

3. Two stalks more cut in September last, which were dried in one of the granaries, have lost nearly half their weight.

I shall anxiously await the result of the analysis, which M. Grandeau wishes to make, for it will make clear certain points upon which I have only uncertain ideas. Corn has performed an uninterrupted and unbroken part in my 28 years of practice as a farmer in Sologne.

At first I cultivated the maize of the country with a poor result in fodder on account of its small size. I immediately replaced it by the Horse-tooth corn with a result three times greater than before; afterwards I abandoned the variety for the Giant or Caragua corn, which I have raised several years. The last fodder gives me enormous yields, sometimes reaching 150,000 kilograms per hectre, and has yielded this year an average of about 120,000 kilograms, (123,440 lbs. green fodder per acre in former, and 98,720 in the latter.)

My land, like a great deal of the land of Sologne, is admirably adapted to the culture of the maize, and, from my numerous experiments the conviction is settled with me, that among all plants, maize furnishes our cattle with the best and most economical feed.

Milk and butter are never more abundant and savory than when my cows eat green maize exclusively. I have 28 horned cattle in my stables, of medium size, and I have been able to prove that an animal of 560 kilograms, (1150 lbs.) separately fed, consumes not less than 55 kilograms, (113 lbs.), of cut maize every 24 hours.

My system of feeding for a year is follow :

From Dec. 15, 1873, to April 15, 1874, cut maize preserved in pits.

To June 15, rye cut green and chopped.

To September 1, mustard, cut and pastured.

To December 15, maize fresh or preserved.

(We have previously described this pitting process, which is simply the plan pursued in putting potatoes in holes with us, only long ditches are dug instead of holes.)

I have made arrangements for the next year to feed the cattle from June 15 to Sep. 1, with green rye, which I shall preserve in pits for this purpose. All the feed of my cattle for the whole year will thus rest exclusively on two plants which never fail in Sologne, maize and rye.

I have at this time, in pits, nearly 250,000 kilograms, (about 260 tons), which I have chopped up with a powerful straw cutter and a 5 horse steam engine. This machine cuts up 100 cubic meters of fodder a day, and costs, selling, fuel, management 13 francs (\$2.60) a day.

My maize was cut up in the field by means of a hedging bill, like underwood of 10 years growth, which it truly resembled in appearance, brought to the pit, chopped, put in place and packed, at a cost for all these operations of about a franc (20 c.), or franc and a-half per 100 kilograms. I will next send you details also of the different processes I have tried in comparison. My best maize is sowed on the stubble of the rye, cut green, the stubble is lightly worked by the mold board, and a woman following, sows by hand, in the bottom of the furrow, about 60 kilograms of seed per hectare, ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  A), dropping every third furrow.

The rye receives in the fall about 30,000 kilograms of stable manure. In the spring, when the sun has become strong, I sow, as a covering, 400 kilograms of the following mixture: 300 kilograms super-phosphate, 100 kilograms sulphate of ammonia.

The rye thus treated reaches a product in green fodder of 18,000 to 20,000 kilograms. The maize is sowed on the stubble, and receives no other manure. In regard to the exhausting qualities attributed to maize, I believe they have been exaggerated. I have several times received three successive crops of maize from the same land, and the last was not inferior to the first. Without any addition of fertilizer I obtain after maize a full crop of wheat. In regard to pitting, this mode is sure to preserve the stuff, provided it is chopped small and packed closely. I use only a slight covering of salt before filling over the pit. Chaff or rye straw cut finely is also used to make the mixture less moist. I increase or diminish the quantity of straw according to the watery nature of the maize as it

comes from the field to the straw cutter. The quantity never exceeds one-fifth, and, having received the savor of the maize, is eaten with avidity by the cattle, who never leave a particle in the trough. To sum up; at Burton five hectares, (12½ A) six at most supply 28 to 30 cattle for a year. I shall be happy to meet with those of my colleagues in agriculture who wish to satisfy themselves of the condition of my pitted maize, which, for four months, will be the exclusive feed of my cattle.

AUGUSTE GOFFART.

REMARKS OF THE FRENCH EDITOR M. E. LE-COUTEUX.

M. Goffart, my neighbor in the country, has obtained very great success by the cultivation of the Caragua maize on an old irrigable meadow. The pitting process has been for him a complete change in his system. He cultivates for fodder maize and rye almost exclusively, the latter being sown in September and harvested in April and May, as the first green fodder, which is partly consumed at once, and partly chaffed and put into a pit, then replaced in the field by corn fodder. By this plan, thanks to the abundant manures of the barn yard, super-phosphate and sul. ammonia, M. Goffart obtains per hectare, (2½ A), per year,

Rye, - - -	18,000 kil.
Green Corn Fodder, -	120,000 "
	138,000 "

And all this without much hand labor or risk of drouth.

(To be continued.)

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT POULTRY EXHIBITION.—

At a meeting of the Central Connecticut Poultry Association, it was voted to hold the annual exhibition at the town hall, Bristol, next December, to be opened on the 15th, 16th and 17th days of said month. Every effort will be made to draw out an extraordinary display of pet stock and pigeons as well as poultry. The prospects are so encouraging for a large show that it is proposed to use the rink as an exhibition room in connection with the town hall. The recording secretary, Mr. James Shepard, of Bristol, Conn., will forward the premium list and entry blanks to all applicants.

The barn, stable and other outbuildings on the farm of Daniel J. Foley, in Howard county, Md., with eleven head of cattle, two horses, and a quantity of grain, were burned on Friday night. The fire broke out in the hay-mow, where a tramp was sleeping, and it is supposed from a pipe he was smoking. Loss, \$8,000; insured.

CLOVER AND OTHER MEADOWS.

A correspondent in *Rural Carolinian*, gives the following, which may prove advantageous to some of our readers:

The successful growing of *clover* has always been a question of doubt in South Carolina. In this region, thirty miles N. W. of Columbia, the experiment, to a limited extent, has been tried, and when properly put in, and on deep red, or stiff bottom lands it has succeeded. In March, 1871, I put in a two and a half acre lot with oats, upon which I sowed twenty five pounds red clover seed, covering with a light brush. February, 1872, I broadcasted one hundred and fifty pounds plaster to the acre, while the dew was still on the clover. In May, when it was mowed, in places it was three feet high. I hauled twelve four-horse loads of splendid hay; supposing each load contained eight hundred, I got ten thousand pounds, or two tons per acre. At first some of the old fogies laughed at the idea of growing clover here, but when once convinced by facts patent to the eye of the most incredulous, resorted to the subterfuge that it may ruin and get the hay wet, and one, Thomas-like, urged as an objection that there was not sufficient room between the cocks to drive a team to haul out the hay!

The success of this experiment alone has induced the purchase, by our farmers, of over three hundred pounds red clover seed, with continued sales. Now, soon (7th October) I design putting in of Red Clover, Timothy, Red-top or Herds Grass, Blue Grass; in all, ten acres. The Blue and Timothy is really an experiment, but as to the others I have no fears as to the result."

October 7th, 1872.

POMARIA.

SHRINKAGE OF FARM PRODUCTS.—Corn loses one fifth by drying, and wheat one fourteenth.—From this the estimate is made that it is more profitable for the farmer to sell unshelled corn in the fall at seventy-five cents than at a dollar a bushel in the following summer; and that wheat at \$1.25 in December is equal to \$1.50 in the succeeding June. In cases of potatoes—together with the shrinkage, there is little doubt that between October and June the loss to the owner who holds them is not less than thirty-three per cent.

HORSEMANSHIP.—A Lewiston (Me.) man boasts that he traded horses nine times in one day, and at night he had the same horse he started with in the morning, \$45 in money, a watch worth \$90, a double-barrelled shotgun, and four bushels of potatoes.



## Successful Farming—Fultz Wheat.

The Farm Committee of the Shenandoah Valley Agricultural Society, Winchester, Va., reported in favor of awarding the first premium for the best farming to Gen: G. S. Meem, of Shenandoah. This gentleman states that from sixty-five bushels of Fultz wheat sown on forty acres of bottom land he thrashed thirteen hundred and twenty bushels, which is thirty-three bushels to the acre, and a little over twenty for one. The second premium was awarded to Peachy & Meem, of Shenandoah County. Their yield from fifty bushels of Fultz wheat sown was nine hundred and twenty-eight bushels, and from one hundred and seven bushels, other varieties, on ninety acres of fallow and corn land, was sixteen hundred and sixty-seven bushels.

S. R. Norman, of Elk Creek, Ky., reports his failures in raising the Fultz wheat, which has lately been reported upon so favorably for large yields all over the country. He says, in writing to the *Farmers' Home Journal*: "You speak of having seen a sample of Fultz wheat, which was fine. In Shelby and Spencer counties it rusted badly, and did not fill well; also damaged much more in the shock than the amber. I sowed three years ago, and, after three years' trial, quit it. I have a piece of amber this year in the same field, and same condition of soil, with a piece of Fultz, and the amber has doubled it in yield and much superior quality. Very few in this section will try Fultz another year."

**THE PERFECT SHEEP DOG.**—The English Fancier's Journal gives the following description of the Scotch colley. To win the prize at a first-class English dog show, a dog would have to fill all these conditions: The head has a great resemblance to a wolf's—being rather conical, and going off gradually sharp to the nose, with a long jaw—only longer, and with a more foxy and intelligent look, and wider and longer ears, which are a little feathered and pendant; eyes have a sort of flashing and "miss nothing" look, always on the alert; jaw long; nose sharp; neck long and well furnished with apron and ruffle; shoulders fine and deep; chest well let down; legs straight and full of muscle, with cat-like feet. A good broad back and thick cover over the loins, with well bent hocks; stifles well developed; tail feathered, not curled over the back; coat long and straight, wiry to the touch, with a pily coat underneath the "overcoat." Color various, but that most in vogue, black-and-tan, the tan to be pale, not rich. This is the present fashionable show dog. — *Rural World*.

## USEFUL FACTS.

It is often advantageous and convenient to tie horses or cattle where they can eat small patches of good grass. For this purpose very good *tethers* for stock may be made of long grape vines, with a short rope at one end to tie to the animal, and a loop at the other end to put the stake through to drive into the ground. This kind of a tether will not twist up around their legs or stakes, and they are not costly.

*Mulching or top-dressing* with manure or compost is one of the most profitable operations a farmer can practice; meadows top-dressed with a thin coat of any litter-stuff late in the fall or early spring, will give much more hay and pasture than otherwise. So, fields of winter grain, top-dressed just before snow comes, are much less liable to winter-kill and will yield more and better grain—particularly winter wheat. We have obtained a good yield in this way, on land where little or none could be otherwise obtained. In prairie lands, where scarcely any winter wheat is raised, because of winter killing, this process secures good crops. And we have seen meadows which were run-out, made fertile, so as to yield rich swaths of hay in this manner; besides fertilizing the soil it preserves the moisture and prevents the effects of drouth, and loosens up the surface. In the minds of many intelligent and successful farmers, this is the best way to use or apply nearly all of our manures to get best results.

On the surface and near the surface is where nature applies the manure. D. S. C.

**PLAN FOR A PIG STYE.**—A correspondent in the *Southern Planter and Farmer*, gives the following as the best plan for building a pig stye: Fall a tree two and a half or three feet in diameter; take off two lengths each eight feet, place them parallel to each other, and about eight feet apart; cover with poles, and throw up a mound of earth on top. This is sufficient room for a sow and seven or eight shotes; and for every brood-sow, make one. Leave both ends open, that they may replenish their bed with leaves when necessary.

**EXPENSIVE LUXURY.**—The Ohio Assessors' returns for 1873 shows 35,440 sheep, worth \$117,045, killed by dogs in that State. In addition to this 35,035 were injured. The aggregate amount of loss is given at \$135,218. This keeping of thousands of worthless dogs seems an expensive luxury, and one that unfortunately falls on the whole community, and not only on those who indulge in it,

### Irrigation for Potatoes.

This subject has been somewhat discussed of late. We talked with a gentleman in Virginia recently, whose early planted potatoes, on moist land, did much better than others. A writer in the *Prarie Farmer* says:

The experience of the present season demonstrates the value of plenty of water for the potato crop. The abundant rains we have had have given a yield to this useful esculent, almost without an equal. The Early Rose, particularly, shines out without a rival. Some cultivators have imagined that this variety was running out, but this was evidently a mistake. No potato could be better than this has been the past season.

Beyond doubt many farmers are peculiarly and favorably situated to avail themselves of ample supplies of water, which in extremely dry seasons, like several of those prior to the present, would very largely increase the quantity, and improve the variety of certain products, one of which is certainly the potato.

It must not be concluded, though, that any crop can thrive on low, wet, badly drained lands. The supply of water wants to come from above, not below. There is no crop known which can thrive in wet, cold soils."

### Gunston, Virginia.

Last week we had a pleasant and instructive visit to this old and historical estate, in Fairfax county, Va., now owned by Col. Edward Daniels, an enterprising farmer. In early times, even before the revolutionary war, this splendid plantation was owned by that patriotic and distinguished statesman, Gov. Geo. Mason, the friend and adviser of Washington.

Col. Daniels is making substantial improvements in the way of clover, blue grass, timothy, and other meadows, in which he succeeds well; also, great variety of fruits.

D. S. C.

**A LAUNDRY SECRET.**—The following receipt for doing up shirts will be found of use to many housewives: Take two ounces of fine white gum arabic powder; put it into a pitcher and pour on it a pint or so of water, and then, having covered it up, let it stand all night. In the morning pour it carefully from the dregs into a clean bottle and cork it, and keep it for use. A tablespoonful of gum water stirred into a pint of starch made in the usual manner, will give to the lawns, either white or printed, a look of newness, when nothing else can restore them after they have been washed.

### The Profits of Quinces.

Less attention is given to this fruit than almost any other, while it is regarded by some persons as a most valuable fruit to raise. A writer for the *Country Gentleman*, who seems to have considerable experience with this fruit, gives the following items and advice: The trees should be planted twelve feet apart each way, requiring 325 for an acre; trees four years old sometimes bear from one peck to one-half bushel; the price of the fruit in New-York varies from six to ten dollars per bushel, and a well-established orchard should yield three pecks a tree, and the price should average two dollars per bushel. At this rate an acre should yield two hundred and twenty-five bushels, worth in market \$450. It would seem that the greatest drawback is the trouble from the borer, which kills many of the trees, and so weakens the others that they fail to yield remunerative crops. This enemy is most destructive upon dry upland soils. The best varieties are the Orange and Rea's Mammoth.

### Saving Seed Corn.

Go through your corn, before husking, and pick off the largest, soundest ears, and only from stalks that have at least two ears on them. An exchange gives the following for the benefit of those who got nipt by the frost.

"Where frost caught the corn this year, it will be wise for farmers to select the largest and best ears at once, pull them off, tie the husks together and hang them up in a well ventilated place to dry. Farmers cannot be too particular, this year, in saving seed corn, and in many fields it will be a difficult matter to get good seed. Where there is any doubt about it, give yourself the benefit of it, and not the corn—that is, be sure you have corn that will germinate, if you have to procure it from a neighbor who was more fortunate than yourself."

**FARM STOCK.**—All farmers know that one good cow well fed and cared for, is worth more than three poor ones half fed and badly housed. The same is true of oxen, horses, sheep, hogs, and all farm stock; hence, just so many of each should be kept as can be well kept. It is the best policy to procure a full-blooded male animal, or the service of one, and allow your female stock to be bred to no other until you get the highest developed grade. In this manner you can soon grow good blooded stock, and with high feeding the development of your best specimens will be something to be proud of. Feeding and care, after blood, yes, before blood, is the prime factor in the production of stock.—*Peninsular News*.



### Timothy—Fall Seeding.

J. H. Chandler, of Norwalk, Ohio, gives in the *Ohio Farmer* his experience in this direction, as follows:

I have practiced it to some extent, and, all things considered, I regard it as the best time. I have never failed to get a good stand at the first year, where sown either alone or with clover, succeeding much better than when sowing with wheat or oats.

I would advise ploughing and dragging in August; then top-dress with good rotten manure. About the 1st of September drag until your dressing is well mixed with the surface earth and well pulverized, when I would sow the seed broadcast, about six quarts to the acre; then drag lightly. This should make a good start before cold weather. If the land is suitable for clover, I would sow three quarts of clear seed per acre in March.

I always cross-sow my clover and timothy, sowing about half each time, thus distributing the seed very evenly over the ground, which is very essential in laying down a meadow. Under this treatment you may expect a fair crop the first year.

### Agricultural Colleges.

It was a most beneficent act of Congress, when they passed the law donating lands to Agricultural Colleges; and the people of the United States will be neglectful of one of their highest interests and blessings if they do not earnestly foster, and generally avail themselves of the privileges held out by these institutions, so nobly endowed.

The people of Maryland have an excellent institution of this kind, and it should be their pride and pleasure to do all they can to secure for it the highest success and usefulness.

In its President, W. H. Parker, and his associate faculty, they have gentlemen of eminent ability and peculiar qualifications to render the Agricultural College efficient in practical education. D. S. C.

PAGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA.—The editor of the *Page Courier* has seen an apple grown in that county which weighed over a pound and two ounces; a Surprise potato which weighed two pounds and eight ounces. From two and a half pounds of Surprise seed, sixteen bushels of potatoes were dug. A good yield.

A lazy man's churn has been invented in Vermont. It is adjusted to a wagon, and all a man has to do is to drive down for the mail, and when he gets back the butter has come—from the store, at 30 cents per pound.

### Bread Raisers.

Of those who raise bread for the people the great Carlyle writes:

"The toil-worn craftsman that with earth-made instrument, he laboriously conquers the earth and makes her man's. Venerable to me is the hard hand, crooked, coarse, notwithstanding wherein lies a cunning virtue indefeasibly royal as the scepter of this planet. Venerable, too, is the rugged face, all weather-tanned, besoiled, with its rude intelligence, for it is the face of a man, living, man-like—the more venerable for the rudeness, even because we must pity as we love thee, hardly treated brother. For us thy back was so bent, for us were thy straight limbs and fingers so deformed. Thou wert the conscript on whom the lot fell, and fighting our battles thou wert so marred! For in thee, too, lay a God-created form, but it was not to be unfolded; incrustated must it stand with the thick adhesions and defacements of labor, and thy body, like thy soul, was not to know freedom. Yet toil on, toil on! thou art in thy duty, be out of it who may; thou toilest for the altogether indispensable, for daily bread."

GRANGERS MAKE YOUR FARMS SELF-SUSTAINING.—T. J. Smith, Master of the Georgia State Grange, recently gave utterance to the following:

I find the Patrons buckling on their armor everywhere I go, putting themselves into line for an earnest and active move, sowing largely of small grain, and I find an anxiety among the Grangers to add a wide plank to our platform, one that all Grangers can stand on, namely, no member is worthy of fellowship who does not make his farm self-sustaining. They advocate the decapitation of all members, after next crop, that do not come up to this standard; they also impress, earnestly, an inspection of all the crops of all the members of the Grange, either by a committee of each subordinate Grange, or a committee of the whole Grange. This will work happily.

WHAT FARMERS OUGHT TO DO.—The farmer must keep well posted. It is a great matter of economy that he be well supplied with papers and magazines. Not only his county paper, which tells him of affairs about home, but also one of the great dailies which lets him look right out into the world. At least one of the journals devoted to agriculture should find access to his home. One or two hints picked up through the year will amply repay the cost of subscription.

Sprigs of wintergreen or ground ivy will drive away red ants; branches of wormwood will serve the same purpose for black ants.

## FAIRS IN VIRGINIA.

LYNCHBURG, October 12, 1875.

The Agricultural and Mechanical Fair of this place commenced to-day. The weather is cool but pleasant. Rain fell last evening just enough to lay the dust and make the road comfortable. The entries of stocks, manufactures and farm products are very fair and respectable. The Short-horn and Alderney cattle, of G. W. Palmer, of Saltville, are the finest and largest that are here.

Lynchburg is very lively and growing; improving as fast as other cities in the State. It possesses splendid water power, by the James river, and the transportation facilities by railroad and canal are ample and convenient.

The fair grounds are well located and handsomely fitted up with buildings and enclosure. The present is called one of the best shows the society has ever made; this having been a fair season for grain, fruit and tobacco. One of the handsomest farms about here is that of John P. Wright, which lies on the hills, reaching to the valley of the Blackwater Creek. Mr. Wright uses a water-ram to great advantage, to raise the water, in abundance, for all purposes of the farm and home, from springs down the hill-sides.

The opening exercises of the Fair consisted of music by the band, prayer by Rev. T. W. Hooper, address of welcome by Major T. J. Kirkpatrick, followed by a speech from Hon. A. R. Boteller, of West Virginia which concluded the opening, after which came the trials of speed, which were but moderate. There are not as much stock and other articles as were expected, on account of the rain last night; still the attendance and receipts are fair in amount. G. W. Palmer, of Saltville, is president; Alexander McDonald, of Lynchburg, Secretary, and J. W. Morgan, Entry Clerk, from whom I received courteous attention.

Matters generally were pleasant; but we regretted to see so many gambling wheels, by which many green young men—and some old ones—were fleeced; but they deserve little sympathy; yet, the officers ought not to allow any of these things on their grounds.

There was a fair show of farm implements and domestic fabrics.

The grounds are handsomely located on the hills above the city, and are conveniently fitted up with buildings, sheds, pens and coops. The society was organized in the spring time of 1869, and has made creditable progress for the time. The driving track is a half-mile course, and is in fine condition. The chief races will take place to-morrow, when more entries are expected than appeared to-day.

## Piedmont Fair.

CULPEPER, VA., October 14, 1875.

The Fair at this place is very creditable; this is the third day of the exhibition, and the various kinds of stock are superior and numerous in all branches—horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, with a fair sprinkling of poultry. Particularly noticeable are the large, handsome, Holstein cattle, from the splendid farm of, and imported by, Judge Fullerton, at Clifton, Va.; also the thorough-bred Short-horns of Mr. Breese, of Rapidan Station. He also

exhibits a splendid stallion four years old, of the Hambletonian stock. The mules and jacks are fully represented. Farming implements and machinery are well represented, in superior articles, by Ezra Whitman, of Baltimore, and Mr. Watt, of Richmond, with some others.

The champion drill of E. Whitman & Sons, and their fertilizer sower, attracted much attention, and were highly commended by all farmers who saw them; also, the Whitewater wagon came in for a share of notice and approval. In all branches the articles are numerous, as also domestic fabrics, and all very creditable. Dairy products and garden vegetables make a creditable show, as do the various grains. But the show of fruits is lamentably scarce, Mr. Dollins, of Albemarle, having about all—a fine collection of choice apples. Fine arts have a limited show, as also the floral products. The Reynolds fruit drying apparatus or evaporator is exhibited by Dr. Snodgrass, of Washington. Col. S. S. Bradford is President of the Society, and by the efforts of him and his associate officers, the grounds have been fitted up in the most beautiful and convenient manner of any that I have seen, while their location and scenery are unsurpassed for extensive and picturesque views, overlooking ranges of the Blue Ridge mountains.

LAST DAY, OCT. 15, 1875.

In addition to the entries mentioned yesterday must be stated some fine sheep and short-horns, owned and exhibited by Colonel Bradford, the President. Also, fine Devon cattle, and some sheep, by F. W. Chiles, of Louisa county.

A foot-race, by colored boys and men, in which about a dozen of them started, only two or three of whom ran the half mile, the balance falling out at different intervals. This race caused much amusement and general shouting, but with all this thunder the weather continued fair, without storm and very cool. The premium or prize was \$20, \$10 and \$5.

Maj. Cochrane, the postmaster of the city and publisher of the *Times*, was deputed to look after the representatives of the press and see them provided with suitable badges, which duty he discharged very pleasantly.

Last evening the Grangers of this region held an interesting meeting and reunion for discussing the welfare of the Order.

This is regarded by the officers and all friends of the Society as a most successful and satisfactory exhibition, both in its character and financially.

One thing was noticeable, which was creditable to the management—that is, there were no gambling affairs, swindling machines or pools, as often curses the fairs.

After a running and trotting race followed the most amusing race of the day, being a mule race, in which four entered—one black, one gray, one red and one mouse colored—to run one mile. Soon the black fell out, then the red, while grey and mouse went the whole—the mouse or dun color winning the race in about two minutes, two white men and two negroes being the riders. Two of the mules made much fun by running off the track and running backward and crosswise, and hunting the gates, while the old gray insisted on crowding and mounting the fence and railings, giving his rider a right lively time to keep the saddle and save his legs.



Handy Cap Consolation for \$40; \$25 to the first and \$15 to the second; distance three quarters of a mile. Three horses entered, and Farrell's bay won the first and Bartelle's gray, Pinback, the second.

Farrell's bay then trotted a half mile dash in 1:16 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and has heretofore made a full mile at the same rate. A large multitude crowded the grounds until the close.

This morning an incident occurred on the grounds, causing both fright and sport. Kinche-loe's black bear, "Ruben," which has amused the boys during the fair by his dance and antics, while tied to a pole, broke loose and ranged around at will, hugging little darkeys and scaring their mamas, but hurting none much, when a man came to their relief and shot poor Bruin, and he was soon hurried off to the barber shops by piecemeal, to be made into hair oil.

The Stieff Pianos were on exhibition, in the gallery, and elicited much praise from the ladies.

Col. Bradford, the President, and his associates, may justly feel proud of their show and success.

D. S. C.

### FALL PLOWING FOR CORN.

It is the well established opinion of most successful farmers, that it is best to plow land in the fall for corn next spring, and indeed for all the spring crops. Three benefits are derived from fall plowing—the soil being exposed to the action of frost becomes better pulverized and more friable; many insects and weed seeds are killed by the frost during winter; then, generally, the weather and condition of the soil are more favorable for plowing than in the spring, and often there is more time and less hurry. These fine autumns should be improved by plowing.

D. S. C.

BOYS AND THEIR MOTHERS.—Some one has written beautifully to the boys in the following manner. Here is a whole sermon in a few sentences:

"Of all the love affairs in the world, none can surpass the true love of the big boy for his mother. It is a pure love and noble, honorable in the highest degree to both. I do not mean merely a dutiful affection. I mean a love that makes a boy gallant and courteous to his mother, saying to everybody plainly that he is fairly in love with her. Next to the love of a husband, nothing so crowns a woman's life with honor as this second love, this devotion of son to her. And I never yet knew a boy 'turn out' bad who began by falling in love with his mother. Any man may fall in love with a fresh-faced girl, and the man who is gallant with the girl, may cruelly neglect the worn and weary wife. But the boy who is a lover to his mother, in her middle age, is a true knight who will love his wife as much in the sere leaved autumn as he did in the daisied spring time."

## THE APIARY.

### FEEDING BEES.

This is the most important, and perhaps the least understood and practiced, of any branch of bee management; but to feeding I attribute principally all my great success as an apiculturist; but the essential knowledge to gain is to learn when to feed, how to feed, and what food to supply.

The summer of 1860 was the coldest and the most constantly wet of any year in the memory of this generation; scarcely any honey was collected; the harvest of that year was so late that I only finished carting corn on the Southdowns on the 5th of November.

I had a stock of twenty-two hives of bees at that time, and finding in the autumn they had no provision of food for the winter consumption, I began to feed with sugar syrup. This would have been quite correct had I understood how to apply it properly; but in my lamentable ignorance I filled old honey comb and other receptacles, and placed the food at the front of the hives; the natural consequence of this was, that in a few days the whole apiary was in a state of confusion, war, and robbery, so that I discontinued feeding, thinking the bees might quiet down; but alas! my precaution came too late—a general war had been declared, freebooters were ripe for robbery, and assassination was going on in all quarters; for when they found no food on the outside of the hives, they stormed the castle, and so deadly was this battle, the strong attacking the weak, that hive after hive fell victims, were cleared out and killed, leaving only one swarm alive out of the whole lot; but had I understood the art of feeding as I now do, I should certainly have saved the whole apiary from destruction. Thousands of swarms died in England the following winter, when they might easily have been saved by judicious feeding.

#### BEE FOOD.

To every pound of loaf or best moist sugar, add half a pint of water, boil for a few minutes, and when put out to cool, stir into each gallon of the syrup two tablespoonfuls of rum, and one teaspoonful of salt. The only safe and proper way to administer the food is with a bottle at the top of the hive, through the whole in the centre.

When the feeding bottles are properly fitted the syrup will only escape so fast as the bees store it away below. The bottle must be carefully covered by an empty hive, and over this some sacking, or matting, so that bees from other hives may not learn what is being performed for their neighbors' benefit.

Above all, be careful not to shed any portion of the liquid on the outside of the hive, or great confusion and fighting may be the consequence.—J. W. PAGDEN, *England*.

## THE DAIRY.

### TO MAKE THE DAIRY PAY.

We clip from the *New York Times* a few paragraphs of a communication to that paper, by Mr. Alexander Hyde :

"The beef grower wants fat, and he should feed meal and other fat-forming food ; but the dairyman wants milk, and succulent grass, roots and bran are better adapted for this purpose.

Another important question with milk producers is, what shall we do with our product ; make it into butter and cheese, or sell it in its real state ? We heard this subject recently discussed in a farmer's club of men of large experience, and the facts adduced went to show that butter-making is the most profitable branch of the dairy business. We have no doubt this is the case where the mistress of the manse has taste and tact in manipulating butter. The impression is quite prevalent that sending milk to market pays better than making butter or cheese. It certainly is a great relief to the women, but there are a good many drawbacks to it. Freight and commission reduce the profits, but the great vexation about it is that so many cans are returned short, or torn, or in some other way deficient ; and it is noticeable that when the market is flush with milk, then returns are much worse than at other times. When the botheration of cooling the milk and taking it to the cars at a stated time of day, (Sundays not excepted), whether it rains or shines, is taken into account, there is not such a saving of labor as appears at first sight. Right here we desire to give some of the facts stated at the club meeting to which we referred. One gentleman, who keeps on an average thirty-seven cows, and who sends his milk to New York, stated that his net income last year from his herd was : from milk sold, \$3,571.32 ; from calves sold and raised, \$244.06 ; total, \$3,815.38, or a little over \$100 per cow. Another gentleman, who has kept on the average twenty-five cows for the past four years, and has sold his milk in New York, gave \$3,000 as his annual income from this herd, or \$120 per cow. These statements show a good profit, but they are not equal to those of the butter makers. One of these made his cows average him in eleven months, \$143.41.

One great advantage in butter making is, that it does not draw upon the resources of the farm, as does selling milk or making cheese. The butter sold is mostly composed of carbon, a cheap article, abounding in the air and in most soils. The skim milk still retains most of the nitrogen and inorganic constituents of the milk, and as this is fed to pigs or calves, little fertilizing material is taken off, whereas in selling milk, all goes, and in making cheese the nitrogenous compounds are exhausted.

In making butter the profit is doubled and sometimes quadrupled by making a prime article. Poor butter nobody wants, but the gilt-edged brings almost any price the maker has a conscience to charge. The quality of butter is much more closely scrutinized than formerly. Very few families are willing to take up with what is called store butter."

The writer goes on to say that where a neighborhood can furnish the milk from 300 to 500 cows, it would be best to have a dairy and a cheesery combined. One man and woman, experienced, can manage the milk of 500 cows, and after skimming the cream, before standing too long, the best of butter could be made, still leaving enough to make cheese of sufficient richness to bring remunerative prices, and the whey would still be left for the pigs.

### PLANTING ORCHARD TREES.

This can be done both in the spring and autumn ; but, for several reasons, it is better to be done in the autumn ; there is more time to do it carefully than in the hurried spring time ; the young trees will get a firmer stand in the ground, and be ready to go right on growing at the first opening of spring ; whereas, if planted in the spring, they get more or less set-back, and will not make so vigorous growth as when set in the fall. But if you have failed to set your trees in the fall, do it in the spring, rather than not at all.

### ROLLING LAND.

No one implement, except the plow, perhaps, is more necessary or useful than a good *roller* in farm operations. It levels the fields and crushes the lumps, and presses small stones into the ground out of the way of the mower and reaper ; it makes planting and hoeing more easy and pleasant ; even for planting corn, we always *rolled* the land after harrowing ; then marked it off one way with a light plow. The roller should be made in two sections, so as to turn easy, without scraping the ground.

### Storing Corn, and Weevils.

Often corn in the cribs is injured by *weevils* getting into it ; this can be prevented, in a great degree, by strewing a few cedar chips or twigs among the corn as it goes into the crib. Sassafras roots and bark will do the same. Painting the inside of the place with coal tar will have the same effect.

Now is the time to look out for these things.

AMERICAN CHEESE.—Our cheese trade with England is every year assuming large proportions, and more and more crowding the home-made article out of the English market.

Prepare for the comfort of your stock in cold weather ; now is the proper time.



## LADIES DEPARTMENT.

## A CHAT WITH THE LADIES FOR NOVEMBER.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

## INDIAN SUMMER.

Just after the death of the flowers,  
 And before they are buried in snow,  
 There comes a festival season,  
 When nature is all aglow—  
 Aglow with a mystical splendor  
 That rivals the brightness of spring—  
 Aglow with a beauty more tender  
 Than aught which fair summer could bring.

Some spirit akin to the rainbow  
 Then borrows its magical dyes,  
 And mantles the far-spreading landscape  
 In hues that bewilder the eyes.  
 The sun from his cloud-pillowed chamber  
 Smiles oft on a vision so gay,  
 And dreams that his favorite children,  
 The flowers, have not yet passed away.

There's luminous mist on the mountains,  
 A light, azure haze in the air,  
 As if angels, while heavenward soaring,  
 Had left their bright robes floating there,  
 The breeze is so soft, so caressing,  
 It seems a mute token of love,  
 And floats to the heart like a blessing  
 From some happy spirit above.

These days so serene and so charming,  
 Awake a dreamy delight—  
 A tremulous tearful enjoyment,  
 Like soft strains of music at night;  
 Well now they are fading and fleeting,  
 That quickly, too quickly, they'll end,  
 And we watch them with yearning affection,  
 As at parting we watch a dear friend.

November is the eleventh month of the Julian year, and as its name, from *nomen*—ninth—indicates, was the ninth month of the old Roman year, which began in March. The Anglo-Saxons called it *windmonat*, or wind month, from which we infer that our ancestors had the beginning of winter in November, with boisterous winds, and were not acquainted with the glorious beauties, and soft, hazy atmosphere of Indian summer that crowns November in our favored land, as the most fascinating, in my opinion, of the distinctly characterized twelve months of the year.

As stated in my Chat for October, I received from a young lady the request, in flattering terms, that I would not entirely "chat with housekeepers, but would tell her and her young friends just from school, how to while away the dull days in the country, in winter, especially dreary rainy days." Judging from the tone of her note, not having the honor of a personal acquaintance, I think she is a sprightly and expressive type of a majority of her sex, who, as soon as they cast off the fetters of boarding school constraint, seeing the world, as they have seen the charms of fashionable life depicted by poets and novelists, full of kaleidoscopic pictures of never ending gaiety, peace and pleasure, they desire to enter at once into this vortex of unceasing excitement and novel entertainment, and hate to have a cloud pass over the sun, and have the blues if a glorious rainy day comes, to mar some pic-nic, or keep away some expected visitors, or to stop some intended visit. But while this is all natural, and has been the case from time immemorial with girls and boys just free from

school, yet they should remember what the old Roman poet says: *In solis sis tibi turba locis*—

In solitary places be  
 Unto thyself good company.

This means, you should, at all times, when without companions, be able to find pleasure in the converse with books, which are often far more enjoyable than living talkers; and that you should study nature as you find it—let the trees, flowers, brooks and rocks, storms and clear skies, insects and birds, and nature in every guise, be sources of amusement and objects of absorbing interest, so that time will never hang heavily, but in the hours of solitude you will either kill the dullness of it, by useful employment—in enjoyment of the wholesome writings of the good and great authors of the past or present times, in the contemplation of nature's wonders, exemplifying God's goodness and his mysterious workings, made clearer to you, by your study of botany, natural history, and the other kindred sciences.

As to books, beyond your elementary school books, you should read daily, portions of that wonderful book—the Bible, and you may read also the best poets; Walter Scott, and novels like his—but let me entreat you as you value your happiness, not to get in the habit of reading the trashy sensational novels of the day. I once knew a very loving young married couple whose pathway in life seemed a flowery one without a thorn; she was all perfection, with every social accomplishment, and an adept, though young, in housekeeping, and he was calculated by his sober and industrious habits, fine mind and deep devotion to her, to make her life happy, yet he had faults; a quick temper and great regularity in his habits; if the latter could be termed a fault. Her only fault was love for novel reading. One day he came home exhausted in body, and wearied and worried with the labors and cares of the day, and his wife was so absorbed in her novel that she forgot all about dinner. There was a scene, which ended in a separation for a long time, before friends could reconcile the once happy pair. After that, she never touched a novel or a sensational story, yet the chain had been broken, and though re-linked, it could never after be as strong as before. The mended link is always perceptible, and causes an unpleasant attrition of sensitive consciences.

My dear young ladies, I write to you as to my daughters, and therefore you must excuse me, if I write in a way you did not expect. Therefore, since my advice has been asked, which I hold to be a great compliment, you will take what I have to say as complacently as you can.

There are many ways to make time in the country pass delightfully and improvingly. So arrange it that you have full occupation, not to weariness however. It should be spent in proper proportions in household employments, in amusements, in exercise in or out of doors, in study, in entertaining, yet instructive, reading, such as the light literature furnished by the best authors, and magazines; in conversation, and at all times in the effort to shed sunshine in the family. In the earnest desire to make every one around you happy, you will have no ennui, and you will forget that "it is a rainy day;" the elements may war and forbid your out-going, but you will have within doors the glad some light of peace, content and loving hearts.

Every young girl, according to the instincts of humanity, and the universal law of nature, will probably marry, sooner or later in life; it, therefore, becomes part of her self-education to prepare herself for that solemn event, that when the step be taken, she will be capable of discharging skillfully the duties of housekeeping, that she may command the esteem of her husband and the respect of her servants, and not be only a pretty painted doll, admirable only in the parlor—to be a subject of mortification to her husband and the ridicule of her domestics, for her utter ignorance. Therefore learn to make bread and butter; to pickle and preserve; to make pastry and cakes, and all things appertaining to the culinary art; and learn not theoretically but practically, and continue to perform dally some one of these arts of cookery, until you are pronounced an adept in all these things by your friends. If you have a mother, you will, by so doing, be a great help to her, and if so unfortunate as to be motherless, you will be a treasure to your father. Learn to dust, sweep and do chamber work, for but few seem to know how these important trifles should be done, or if they do, do not do it properly.

I am writing not to the indigent, who are compelled perhaps to do it, but I am writing to those whose circumstances in life would not seem to call for such exertions. But fortunes often melt away as quickly as the morning dews under the evaporating power of the sun's rays. Be ye prepared for the "rainy day" that may come ere' you dreamed of it.

Remember that while you spend some hours of what has been termed "industrious idleness," in embroidery and other fancy needle work, to learn to darn stockings and rents in other garments, in a superior way, is as delicate and difficult stichery, and more useful, and more highly creditable than any other work to be performed by the delicate fingers of woman with the needle. This true accomplishment in needle work, brings with it its delightful reward, in the smiles of your beneficiaries, whether a father, brother, friend or lover. Learn to make yourselves useful without a boastful display of it. Many years ago, I was on a visit to a distinguished friend in — county, Maryland, and I was obliged to leave early in the morning, declining positively to have breakfast, as it would put the family to inconvenience, having learned that all the servants were away or sick. I got up earlier than was necessary, and creeping down stairs, trying not to disturb the household, I saw the accomplished and pretty young daughter of my host, after she had put on the coffee to boil and the steak to broil, having no doubt first made the fire herself, *blackening my boots*. You ought to have heard the heartfelt compliments I paid her—and oh! bless you, what a glorious breakfast I did make. I wore those blessed boots for weeks before I would let any common hand desecrate them, and not until I was sure all the blacking her pretty hands put on them had been worn off. She is now the mother of a dozen children, and has been the wife of a distinguished lawyer and Congressman. That is the sort of woman who will make her own life happy and make home happy, never caring whether it rain or shine, or be it winter or summer. She was ready for any emergency, and ready at all times to contribute to the comfort of all within her reach, even thereby incurring inconvenience and mental labors.

My limit is reached, and I can only say, dear young ladies, my next will be more to your taste, as it will treat of amusements.

In the meantime, let me urge you, *at once*, to procure some flower pots and hanging baskets, filled with flowers and roots, for winter blooming, and boxes with cuttings of plants for your especial care, to help you kill time during the dark days of stormy winter, when beaux are scarce.

"SON OF AN ARAB."—Our friend, J. J. Parker, of Chestnut Stock Farm, West Chester, Pa., says the *Practical Farmer*, has quite an acquisition to his stock, being a beautiful horse-colt, sired by imported "Jenifer Arabian," and out of his fine young Percheron mare "Belle" by imported "Prince Imperial." This colt shows the wisdom of the cross of the light Arabian with the more weighty and sizeable Percheron; it gives size without detracting from the style and action of the beautiful Arab.—This colt is a light brown, with a dark mane and tail, legs, and other points. Has the fine head, ear and form of his sire.

### NOTICE THIS FACT!

Every number of the MARYLAND FARMER will contain facts of more value to every farmer than the cost of the paper; and we will insure this by returning the money to any one dissatisfied after reading it all the year.

### New Publications Received.

FLOWERS—THEIR LANGUAGE AND POETRY.—Published by Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.

This is one of the sweetest little gems in the literature of the day. It is elegantly gotten up, and illustrated with several beautiful, colored engravings.—The language which poets of all ages have attributed to the many sorts of flowers is highly entertaining to every body, but more particularly to the young.—Every young lady should have a copy of this delightful little book, and study its pages for instruction and edification. From it, the reader can learn the common and botanical name of almost every flower that is cultivated, and their significance as given by poets and for ages been used by Eastern nations, instead of words spoken or written.

### New Advertisements.

Davidson & Co. ....	Orange County Stud Book.
"Practical Farmer." ....	Philadelphia, Pa.
"The Tribune." ....	New York Weekly Tribune.
Rev. H. A. Neitz. ....	Fowls for sale.
Wm. Parry. ....	Carolina Poplar, &c.
E. R. Cochran. ....	Bull Calf for sale.
R. D. Hodgson. ....	Chester White Hogs.
Md. Poultry Ass'n. ....	Third Annual Exhibition.
Webster's Unabridged.	Sold by all Booksellers.



## Plans--Propositions--Business For 1876.

The present year has nearly closed, and we hope all of our subscribers will renew their subscriptions, and at the same time induce one or more of their neighbors to join with them and also take the MARYLAND FARMER the coming year; it will cost no more for a money order to pay for several copies than for one copy; and with increased number of subscribers we shall increase the matter and value of the paper.

As an inducement to our friends to make an effort to increase the circulation of the FARMER in their respective neighborhoods, we will send them the paper for the coming year for \$1.25, if they will send us one new subscriber at \$1.50; and we will send them five papers for \$5.00 cash.

All subscribers will bear in mind that they are free from the expense of postage, which they were subjected to formerly; and that now publishers have to endure all that expense, which is heavy.

—Any one who will get up a package of five, and send us \$5.00, we will send them a sixth copy for the year.

—Any one who will send us five names, with the money, at \$1.50 each, we will send them any other agricultural magazine worth \$2.50 per year.

—Postmasters and others, who solicit subscribers, and send us the names, may retain fifty cents, and send us \$1 for each subscriber.

—Always give the name of your Post Office, County and State, plainly written, at the head of your letter, and of the place to be sent.

Specimen numbers will be sent free to any address desiring them.

—All new subscribers, who send in their names, and pay before the 1st of January, 1876, will receive the November and December numbers in addition to the numbers of next year.

## To Our Friends.

We appeal to our friends all over the country to exert their influence in our behalf by presenting the claims of THE MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and request them to become subscribers for the year 1876. The new volume will commence January 1st. 1876, and we promise increased labors to make it more acceptable and useful even than ever before, which we flatter ourselves now compares favorably with any similar agricultural magazine in the country. There are hundreds of farmers in and out of our State who are not now subscribing to any magazine devoted to agriculture and its kindred sciences, but who

could easily be induced to do so, if the character of our monthly was properly presented to them. We ask the kind offices of all our old friends in securing each a new subscriber to our volume for 1876, and thereby double our list. Single copies \$1.50; five or more copies \$1 each.

## SEND NAMES.

Our friends will gratefully oblige us by sending the names of such of their neighbors as do not take THE FARMER, to whom we will send specimen numbers of the paper.

## How to Send Money.

In sending small accounts, send either a Money Order or Registered Letter. Large amounts may be sent by Express, or by draft, payable to our order.

## GRANGES AND CLUBS.

For clubs of five or more, the MARYLAND FARMER will be sent for \$1 each; this offer is specially useful to Granges and Farmer's Clubs. We shall gladly publish the proceedings of such associations if they will send us brief reports of their doings. Farmers and Fruit Growers will favor us by sending brief statements of their experiments and successes, for the benefit of other readers.

## GRAND ADVERTISING MEDIUM

The Managers of the

## Maryland Farmer,

Printed at 145 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland, are making vigorous efforts to still further increase the circulation of this old and popular magazine, throughout the States of Maryland, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia; and even in nearly every State, so that it will be a superior medium in which to advertise.

All who have lands, houses, nursery stock, live stock, or any other property for sale; also Hotels, Factories, Insurance Companies, Patent Agencies, and all classes of business, will find it to their advantage to advertise in the "MARYLAND FARMER." Terms reasonable.

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E. WHITMAN & SONS,

145 & 147 W. Pratt Street,  
BALTIMORE, MD.

# BALTIMORE MARKETS--NOV. 1.

Prepared for the "Maryland Farmer" by **GILLMORE & CO.**, Produce Commission Merchants,  
159 W. Pratt st.

[Unless when otherwise specified the prices are wholesale.]

ASHES.—Pots \$5.50@6.00.

BEESWAX.—31@32 cts.

BROOM CORN.—8@12 cts.

COFFEE.—Firm. Prices range from 19@23 cts. for ordinary to choice, gold duty paid.

COTTON.—Market dull.—Ordinary, 12 cts.; Good Ordinary 12½ cts.; Low Middling, 12½ cts.; Middling, 13 cts.; Good Middling, 13½ cts.; Middling Fair, 13½ cts.

EGGS.—Market easy.—Fresh lots at 24@25 cents per doz.

FERTILIZERS.—No change to note. We quote:  
Peruvian Guano..... \$66 ½ ton of 2000 lbs  
Turner's Excelsior..... 50 ½ ton "  
Turner's Ammo. S. Phos..... 45 ½ ton "  
E. F. Coe's Ammo. S. Phos..... 55 ½ ton "  
Rasin & Co., Soluble Sea Island Guano 50 ½ ton "  
Rasin & Co., Ground Bone and Meat..... " "  
Rasin & Co., Ammonia, Potash and Bone Phosphate of Lime..... " "  
Zell's Ammon. Bone Super-Phos..... 45 ½ ton "  
Flour of Bone..... 60 ½ ton "  
John Bullock & Sons Pure G'd Bone..... 45 ½ ton "  
Whitman's phosphate..... 50 ½ ton "  
Bone Dust..... 45 ½ ton "  
Dissolved Bones..... 60 ½ ton "  
Missouri Bone Meal..... 47 ½ ton "  
New Jersey Ground Bone..... 40 ½ ton "  
Moro Phillips' Super-Phosphate Lime 50 ½ ton "  
"A" Mexican Guano..... 30 ½ ton "  
"A" do do..... 30 ½ ton "  
Plaster..... \$1.75 ½ bbl.

FRUITS DRIED.—Cherries, 20@22 cents; Blackberries, 10@11 ct; Whortleberries, 13@14 cts; Raspberries, 28@30 cts; Peaches, peeled, bright, 16@20 cts; Peaches, unpeeled, halves, 7@9 cts; Peaches, unpeeled, quarters, 6@7 cts; Apples, sliced, bright, 9 @ 12 cts; Apples, quarters, bright, 7@8 cts. .

FLOUR.—Market Fine—Super \$4.50@5.50; Extra 5.75 @6.00; Western Family 6.50@8.00; Choice family, \$8.25@ \$9.00.

GRAIN.—Wheat—Fair to choice, white, \$1.20@1.50; fair to choice, red 1.10@1.40. Corn—Southern, white 75@78—Yellow do 73@75—Western mixed 65@66 cts. Oats—62@65 cts.

HAY AND STRAW.—Timothy Hay, at \$23@27 per ton; Rye Straw \$16@17; Oat Straw \$11@12; Wheat Straw \$9.00@10.00. Clover \$16@17.

HIDES.—Dull—Green 8@9 cts.; Dry salted 12@13 cts.; Dry Flint 14@15 cts.

PROVISIONS.—Bacon Shoulders, 10@10½ cts.; Clear Rib Sides, 14 cts.; S. C. Hams, 15½@16 cts.

POTATOES.—Irish 1.75@2.00 per Barrel.

RICE.—Carolina and Louisiana, 7½@8½ cts.

SALT.—Ground Alum \$1.15@1.25; Fine \$2.10@2.15 per sack; Turks Island 35@40 cts. per bushel.

WHISKEY.—\$1.17@1.20 per gallon.

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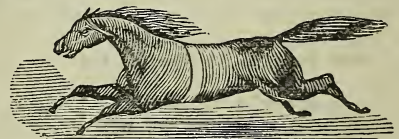
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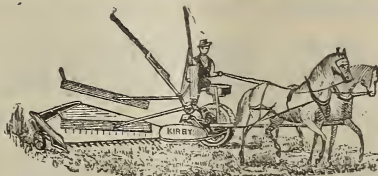
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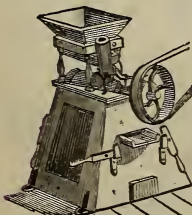
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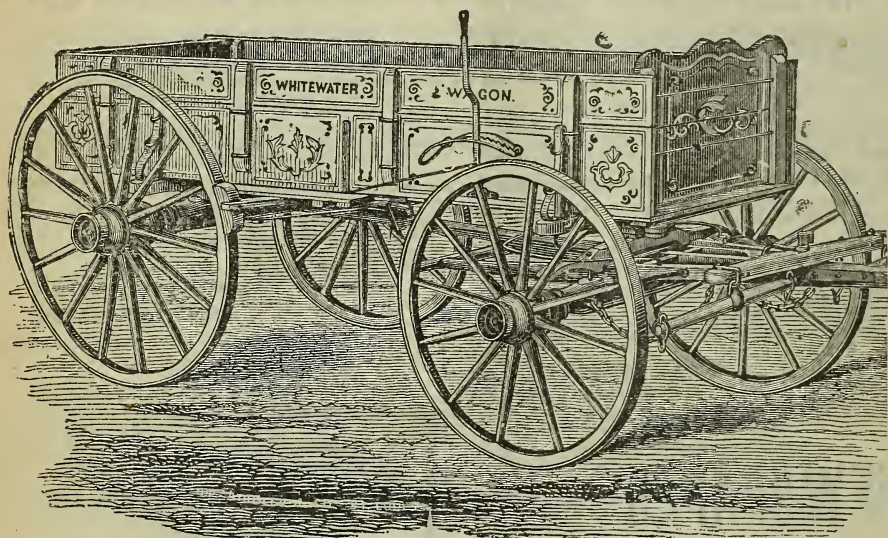
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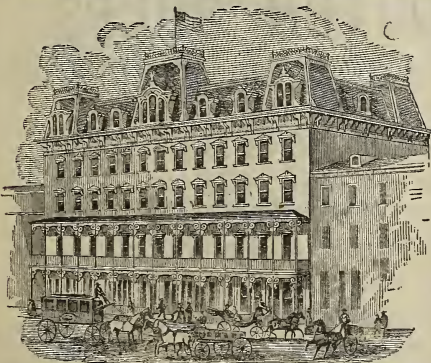
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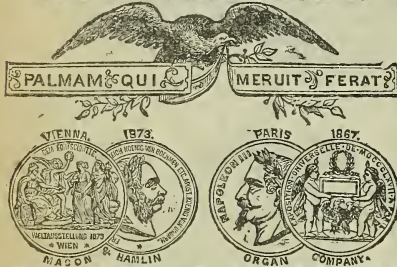
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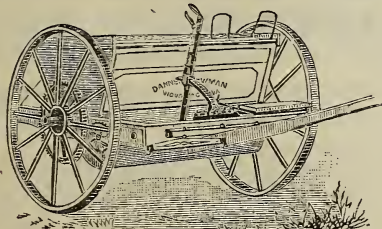
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Guaranteed to be Cheaper than the best Phosphate in the market,  
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AS PER ANALYSIS, containing in one ton of 2,000 pounds, say

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Also, LIME, MAGNESIA, and other valuable constituents in smaller quantities.—  
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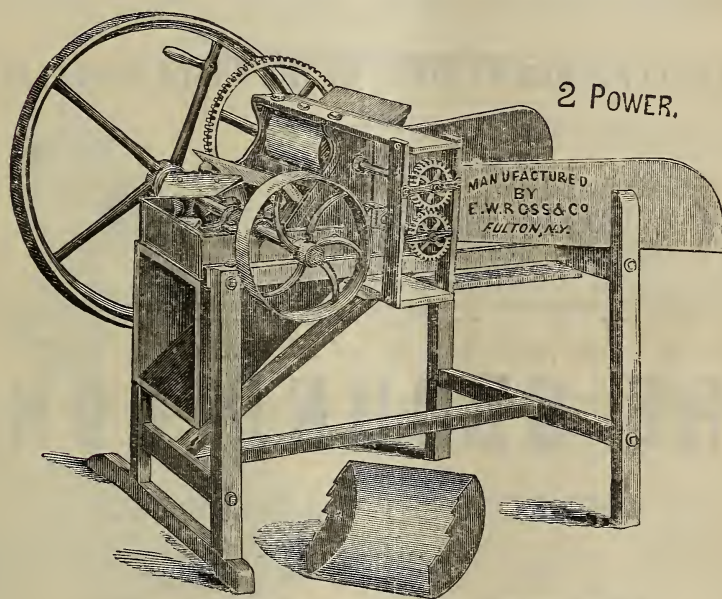


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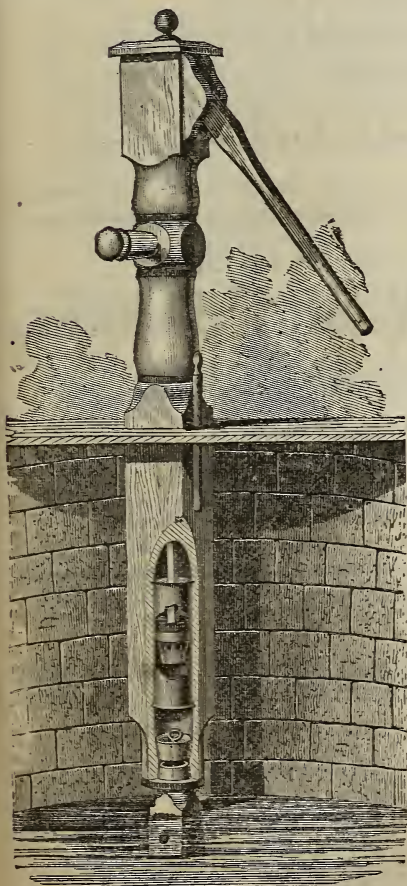
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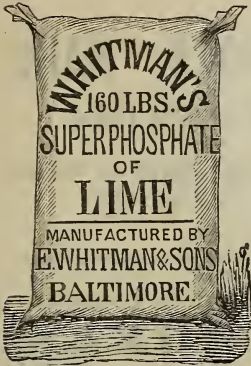
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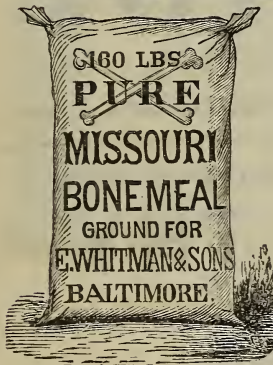
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Price \$50 Per Ton, in Sacks, of 160 pounds each.

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*Its Superior an Impossibility.*



Analysis :   Ammonia..... 4.38  
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**Light Brahmas, Black Cochins,  
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**PURE BRED FOWLS, DUCKS AND TURKIES,**

At very low prices for pure bloods. Have a large stock Light Brahmas on hand, and can fill orders in any quantities with No. 1 birds.

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